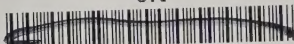


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NO.

HANDBOOK TO NORTH WALES

HARBOR OF NORTH WALES

HANDBOOK
TO
NORTH WALES
(COMPLETE EDITION)

With Twelve District Maps, and Plans of Chester,
Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Bangor,
Pwllheli, Criccieth, Barmouth and
Aberystwyth.

UPWARDS OF 120 ILLUSTRATIONS

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“He that would bring home the wealth of the Indies must carry the wealth of the Indies with him; so it is in travelling—a man must carry knowledge with him if he would bring home knowledge.”

134362

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INTRODUCTION.

Chief Centres—Approaches to the District—The Route viâ Chester—Chester—Chester to Carnarvon—Pronunciation of Welsh Names—Mountaineering—Books for Holiday Reading—Hotels and Tariffs—Angling Resorts.

A LONG the northern coast of Wales, from Prestatyn in the east to Carnarvon in the west, is a succession of watering-places, each with peculiar charms, and all offering the visitor not only the pure air and the bathing and boating that can be obtained at most seaside resorts, but easy and pleasant access to the heart of Snowdonia.

The principal towns, in order from east to west, are **Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Conway, Bangor and Carnarvon.** More or less rural spots are **Prestatyn, Abergele, Pensarn, Llandulas, Old Colwyn, Rhos, Deganwy, Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan.**

In the neighbouring island of **Anglesey** are the small towns of **Beaumaris and Amlwch** and various seaside villages that are attracting visitors.

This book describes what is most worth seeing in the entire district; contains particulars of the organized excursions from each centre; indicates the best routes for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and shows anglers and golfers where and under what conditions they can enjoy their sport.

Pwllheli, Criccieth, Barmouth, Aberystwyth, Bala, Llangollen and other centres in the more southerly part of North Wales are dealt with in a companion volume—**North Wales (Southern Section)**; while Tenby and other popular holiday resorts on the south coast are described in the volume on **South Wales.** The spas of Central Wales are described in the volume on **Llandrindod Wells and District.**

APPROACHES TO THE DISTRICT.

I. By Railway. The facilities for reaching the district by rail are excellent, the main line of the **London and North-Western** skirting the coast and throwing out branches to the most interesting spots.

Luggage in Advance. For a small charge passengers from the principal towns can have their luggage collected from their residences, forwarded in advance, and delivered at destination or left at receiving station to be called for.

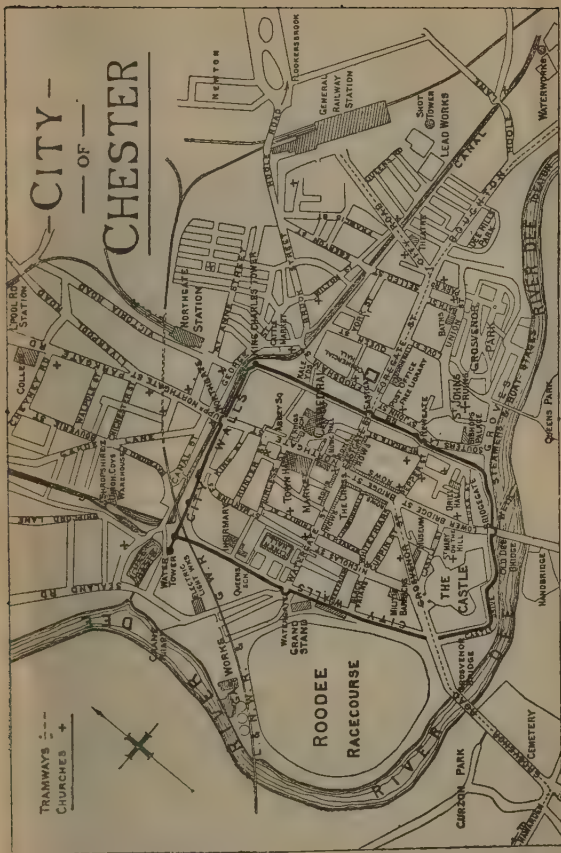
II. By Steamer. During the summer months large and well-equipped boats (including that former London favourite, *La Marguerite*) belonging to the Liverpool and North Wales Steamship Company run daily at cheap fares between Liverpool and the following places on the Welsh coast—Llandudno, Beaumaris, Bangor, Menai Bridge, and Carnarvon. The time occupied by the passage is about $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours to Llandudno, $3\frac{1}{4}$ to Beaumaris, $3\frac{3}{4}$ to Bangor, $3\frac{5}{8}$ to Menai Bridge. The trip is a delightful one, the coast being visible all the way. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 40, Chapel Street, Liverpool, or at any of the piers on the coast.

THE ROUTE *viâ* CHESTER.

As the great majority of visitors to the coast of North Wales travel *viâ* Chester, and few strangers to the city who are able to break their journey, either going or returning, neglect to spend at least an hour or two within its walls, we will briefly indicate its most interesting features.

CHESTER.

Chester was founded by the Romans, who arrived here A.D. 61 and afterwards occupied the city for several centuries. Its earliest name was *Deva*, after the river, while the name by which we know the city is the Saxon form of the Latin *castra* (a camp). After the withdrawal of the Romans it was reduced to ruin by the King of Northumbria in 607, and by the Danes in 894. The city was rebuilt in 909 by Elfreda, daughter of Alfred the Great, who extended its bounds, including the site of the present Castle, which was erected by William the Conqueror. It was the last place of importance in England to submit to the Conqueror, who bestowed it upon his nephew, Hugh Lupus. On Lupus William also conferred the dignity of Earl of Chester, a title which, since the time of Henry III, has been borne by the heir to the



PLAN OF THE CITY OF CHESTER.
 By permission of the Chester Town Council.

English throne. In the days of Edward I, Chester figured prominently in the wars between the English and the Welsh ; in those of Charles I, it was the first city in the kingdom to declare for the King, and the last to succumb to the Parliamentary forces. In 1659 an unsuccessful attempt was made to garrison it for Charles II. Since then, with the exception of the abortive Fenian raid of 1867, there has been nothing special to record respecting it.

The city is on the London and North-Western and the Great Western main lines between London and the North. They pass through the **General Railway Station**, on the north-eastern side of the city. Chester is also served by the Great Central Railway, which has a station in Northgate Street, and by the system controlled by the Cheshire Lines Committee, which has a station in Liverpool Road. Electric tramcars run between the General Station and the centre of the city and the Castle at short intervals (fare $1\frac{1}{2}d$).

The first portion of the route is along City Road, which crosses the **Shropshire Union Canal**, a waterway affording cheap communication with the river Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal on the north and various large manufacturing towns towards the south.

At the end of City Road, the passing visitor should turn to the right into **Foregate Street**. There he will obtain the first glimpse of the quaintness of the place. At the farther end of the thoroughfare is the **East Gate** of the old city, from very early times the principal means of egress and ingress. Here, as well as at various other spots, the ancient walls may be ascended. Having passed through the gate, we are in **Eastgate Street**, one of the four principal thoroughfares dating from the time of the Romans. The others are **Watergate Street** (a continuation of Eastgate Street), **Northgate Street** and **Bridge Street**. In these four ancient ways are situated—

The Rows,

which form the distinguishing architectural feature of Chester. How they originated is uncertain, and various are the theories advanced to account for them. One is that they are due to the lowering of the roadway in the construction of easier gradients. This would expose the cellars and suggest their conversion into shops. The original shops, having been made useless by the removal of the road, may then have been set back and the area occupied by their floors turned into an elevated footway, covered in by the overhanging upper storeys of the houses. The Rows constitute a very pleasant promenade, protected alike from excessive heat and rain.



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CHESTER CATHEDRAL.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

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THE CHOIR, CHESTER CATHEDRAL.



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[Reigate.]

THE ROWS, CHESTER.



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HAWARDEN CASTLE.

At the meeting-place of the four old Roman ways there formerly stood a cross, and **The Cross** is still the name of the space formed by the intersection of the streets. To the right is **Northgate Street**, a busy thoroughfare containing several interesting buildings, and leading to the **Northgate Station** (Great Central Railway). The **Gate** to which the thoroughfare owes its name was for a time the city prison, and as such was the scene of horrible cruelties inflicted upon members of the Society of Friends and other unhappy individuals whose religious or political opinions were obnoxious to the rulers of the Established Church or the State. One of the notable sufferers confined within its walls was George Marsh, the Chester martyr, of the reign of Queen Mary. The place of his execution was near the present Church in Boughton. It is marked by an obelisk erected in 1898.

Immediately on entering Northgate Street the attention of the visitor is challenged by a modernized Row. Beyond that, but on the left, are the **Market** and the **Town Hall**, the latter a very fine building. It was opened by King Edward VII before he came to the throne, and in 1897 was partly destroyed by fire. The interior is shown on application to the hall-keeper. On the opposite side of the street are the old gateway of **St. Werburgh's Abbey**, the **King's School**, founded by Henry VIII, and the western entrance to—

The Cathedral.

Choral Services at 10.15 and 4.15 week-days; 10.30, 3.30, and 6.30 Sundays. Holy Communion at 8 a.m. every day.

The Cathedral was rebuilt by Hugh, Earl of Chester, a nephew of William the Conqueror, in A.D. 1093 for a community of monks of the Benedictine order, on the site of an abbey founded in A.D. 660 by Wulpherus, King of Mercia, for his daughter Werburga, sometime Abbess of Ely.¹

The building was thoroughly restored by Sir Gilbert G. Scott between 1868 and 1876. It is almost entirely composed of the red sandstone of the district. The principal portions were erected during the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, although considerable remains of the original Norman structure still exist. The western entrance is formed of a Tudor arch under a square head, and above it is a fine Perpendicular window. The roof of the **Nave** is composed of panelled oak, its bosses being ornamented with coats of arms, mainly of persons connected with the city

¹ An alternative and shorter route to the Cathedral from Eastgate is by way of **St. Werburgh Street**, a thoroughfare lined by modern buildings after ancient patterns. It also affords a fine view of the Cathedral.

and its history. Between the baptistery and the north-east doorway, leading to the cloisters, are very fine mosaics. Between the nave and the choir is a screen of elaborate wood-work, and over the stalls in the choir are some of the finest oak canopies in England. Some of the misereres are very quaint; all are fully described in Dean Howson's handbook, price 1s. The bishop's throne and the richly-carved pulpit in the choir (the gift of the Freemasons of Cheshire) are also worthy of attention. The easternmost portion of the cathedral is the **Lady Chapel**. It is entered from the North Choir aisle. On one of its bosses is depicted the murder of Thomas à Becket. In the Lady Chapel is the shrine of St. Werburgh, or Werburga.

In the **North Transept** is a large modern canopied tomb marking the resting-place of the learned Bishop Pearson, who died in 1686. The **South Transept**, almost as large as the nave, was formerly the parish church of St. Oswald. It contains a fine altar-tomb, with effigy, of the first Duke of Westminster (d. 1899). A chapel, recently restored by the Cheshire regiment, contains the colours of the regiment and their South African Memorial. On the outside of the South Transept, near the south-east angle, are figures of Lord Beaconsfield, Dr. Kenealy, and Mr. Gladstone, the last holding his Vatican pamphlets.

The **Cloisters**, recently restored, on the north side of the Cathedral, are in the style of the fifteenth century. In the east walk is the entrance to the vestibule of the **Chapter House**, both the vestibule and the chapter room being fine specimens of Early English at its best. In the north walk is the chief entrance to the old **Refectory**, which still contains a fine reader's pulpit approached by a staircase in the wall.

Watergate Street, running westward from the Cross, has yielded many Roman and mediæval relics, and contains several buildings belonging to past days.

Near the upper end, on the left, is **God's Providence House**, so called from the inscription on the front, "God's providence is mine inheritance." It bears the date 1652, but has been rebuilt, the old materials being used as far as possible. Tradition has it that the house was the only dwelling in Chester not visited by the great plague in the seventeenth century, and that the owner placed the inscription on the front in acknowledgment of his preservation. Mrs. Banks has made use of the tradition in her story *God's Providence House*. Below it, on premises occupied by Messrs. Quellyn Roberts & Co., is an Early English crypt, to which visitors are admitted. No. 21 is the **Old Leche House**, and lower down the street is Bishop **Lloyd's House**, famed for its

richly carved front. It bears the date 1615 and the prelate's arms. He was translated from the Manx see to the diocese of Chester in 1605, and died in 1615. As he had an episcopal residence in the city, it is thought that the Watergate house was only the residence of a member of his family. American visitors are specially interested in Bishop Lloyd because his eldest daughter's first husband was Thomas Yale, grandfather of Elihu Yale, whose name was given to the University at New Haven, while her second husband was Theophilus Eaton, the founder of New Haven.

The house was bought a few years ago by some Americans with the intention of removing and re-erecting it in the United States. This disaster was averted by Alderman Brown, who bought back the house. It is now used as an annex to a curio shop, and is open to visitors (admission 3*d.*). The outstanding feature is the Council Chamber of Charles I., with fine plaster ceiling.

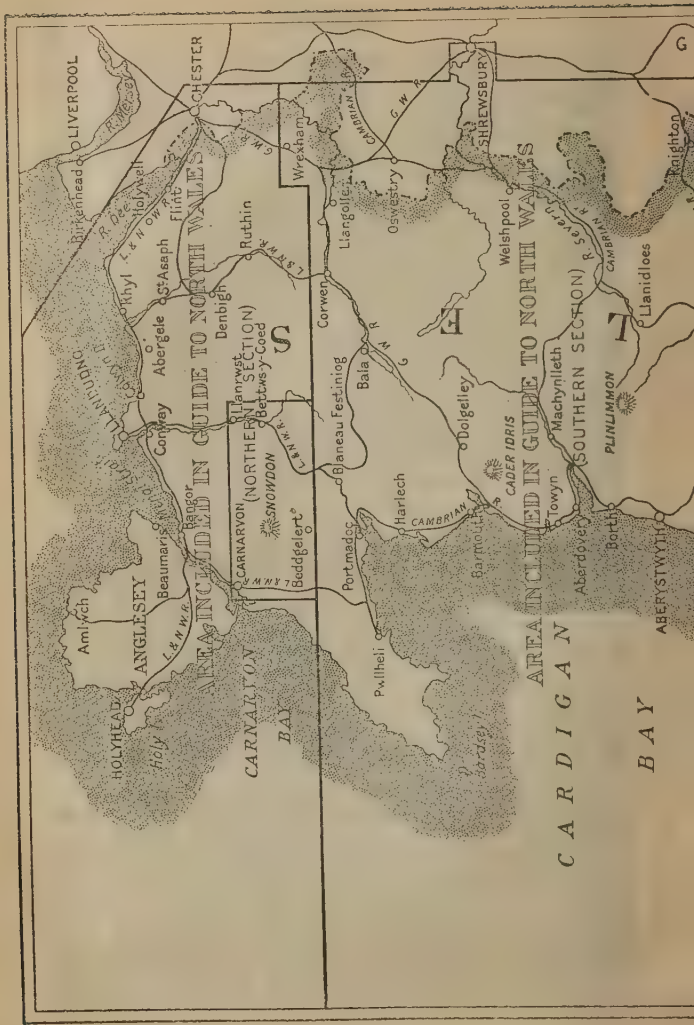
At the junction of Watergate Street with Nicholas Street is the **Yacht Inn**, a good specimen of an old English hostelry. Here it was that Dean Swift, annoyed that none of the Cathedral dignitaries responded to his invitation to sup with him, scratched on a window-pane the following sharp couplet:—

“Rotten without and mouldering within,
This place and its clergy are nearly akin.”

Just beyond Nicholas Street a small passage opens into a court, on the west side of which is a remnant of **Derby House**, formerly a palace of the Stanleys. It was built in 1591, and is the oldest specimen of a house of its kind in Chester, and is open to public inspection (*charge* 3*d.*). In it the Earl of Derby spent the day preceding his execution at Bolton in 1651. You can see the great chimney up which he escaped, when the Ironsides first came for him, and his hiding-place under the roof, and there is a secret passage leading to the Watergate, of which the Stanleys were custodians, along which Charles I fled, completing his escape in a small boat down the river.

Bridge Street, which leads southward from the **Cross** to the Bridge Gate, is remarkable for the number of **Roman Remains** found in it. The chief is the **Roman Bath** (*admission* 3*d.*) below the level of the street at No. 39. It consists of two rooms in a remarkable state of preservation and easily accessible.

Calling for notice in the lower part of the street are **Gamul House** on the right and the **Bear and Billet Inn** below it. The former was the residence of Charles I during the siege, while the old inn was once the residence of the Earls of Shrewsbury, Sergeants of the Bridge Gate. Just beyond the gate is the **Old Dee Bridge**, of which the greater part was



AREA INCLUDED IN GUIDE TO NORTH WALES

AREA INCLUDED IN GUIDE TO NORTH WALES

CARDIGAN

BAY

Birkenhead

OLIVERPOOL

HOLYHEAD

ANGLESEY

Amlwch

Holy

Beaumaris

Bangor

Conwy

Abergele

St Asaph

Flint

Rhyl

Holywell

CARNARVON

LLanrwst

Ruthin

Denbigh

CHESTER

Bettws-y-Coed

SNOWDON

BAY

Beddgelert

Corwen

Llangollen

Wrexham

OSWESTRY

Portmadoc

Bala

Blaneau Festiniog

Dolgelley

WELSHPOOL

SHREWSBURY

RAUGHTON

Pwllheli

Harlech

Barmouth

CADER IDRIS

Machynlleth

Towyn

ABERDOVERY

Borth

ABERYSTWYTH

PLINLIMMON

LLanidloes

R. Severn

CAMBIAN

CAMBIAN

CAMBIAN

CAMBIAN

CAMBIAN

CAMBIAN

built about the close of the thirteenth century. Until 1832 it was the only bridge over the Dee at Chester, and was consequently the only way for all traffic between Chester and North Wales.

The tramcars run about half-way down Bridge Street and then enter **Grosvenor Street**, which branches off on the right and contains the entrance to the **Castle**, part of which dates from the time of William I, who visited it after he had laid waste the north-eastern counties. Several of his successors lodged within its walls when engaged in expeditions against the Welsh, and it was the resting-place for one night of Richard II when on his way from Flint Castle to London to resign the crown. Some of the buildings are now used as barracks and others as the Shire Hall and the Assize Court. The oldest portion of the buildings is a square block known as Cæsar's Tower, behind the guardroom.

In the vicinity of the Castle entrance is the **Grosvenor Museum**, especially noteworthy for its collection of Roman remains, and for its specimens of the birds and insects of Cheshire and North Wales. (*Admission, 3d. Wednesdays free.*)

Beyond the Castle, Grosvenor Street is continued by Grosvenor Road, which passes the **Roodee** (the race-course, etc.), and is carried over the river by the **Grosvenor Bridge**, opened in 1832 by the young princess who was afterwards Queen Victoria. The tramcars run over the bridge, pass the Cemetery and then enter the road to Hawarden, whose famous Castle is about 7 miles from Chester.

A Walk on the Walls

must be undertaken by those who would know Chester. They are the most complete specimen of city walls in England, and give a good idea of what at one time was considered an adequate defence for a populous and wealthy place. The city gates, however, are disappointing, modern, and often quite out of the picture. The walls vary in height from 12 to 40 feet, and afford an uninterrupted promenade some 2 miles in circumference. The walls may be ascended at any of the four gates, and at other spots. The point of ascent nearest the station is at the East Gate. Ascending the steps at the north side and turning to the right, the Cathedral is quickly passed, and just beyond it is the **Kale-Yard Gate**, a small passage enabling the monks of the convent of St. Werburgh to get to their kitchen garden, or kale-yard, without going round by the East Gate.

A little farther is the **Phoenix**, or **King Charles's Tower**, perhaps the most interesting building in connection with the walls. It takes its name of Phoenix from the crest

of a city guild which it bears. As the inscription above the doorway states, King Charles witnessed from this tower the defeat of his army at the battle of Rowton Moor. The moor is about 3 miles distant, and although it gives its name to the engagement, which may have begun there, the most serious part of the fighting took place in the vicinity of the present General Railway Station.

Leaving the Phoenix Tower the **North Gate** is soon crossed. Below, on the other side of the Canal, is the **Blue Coat Hospital**, founded by Bishop Stratford in 1700. Near at hand is another ancient foundation, the **Hospital of St. John the Baptist**. In the vicinity of the North Gate may be seen some remains of the original Roman walls. They terminate in a cornice 6 feet below the parapet.

Passing on, we come to an ancient watch-tower known as **Morgan's Mount**, from which a fine view of the surrounding country and of the Welsh hills is obtained; in the middle distance is Hawarden Castle. Beyond Morgan's Mount is a remnant of the Goblin Tower. It is now known as **Pemberton's Parlour**. Passing through it we see, inside the city walls, the **Barrow Field**, once the drill-ground of Roman soldiers, and, at a later date, a burial-place for victims of the plague.

At the corner, before turning along the west wall, is an edifice, erected in 1322, consisting principally of two towers, the higher one being called **Bonewaldesthorpe's** and the lower the **Water Tower**. The former is now used as a museum. In bygone days the river Dee washed the lower Tower, and vessels were moored to rings inserted in the wall. On the turf below are Roman remains, including parts of a hypocaust, or warming apparatus, which might better have been left in the Roman Bath, Bridge Street, where they belong.

After passing the **Infirmery** and the **Queen's School**, the **Water (West) Gate** is reached. This also once had the river flowing close to it, and, like the other gateways, is comparatively new, the date of its erection being 1789.

Instead of the river the eye of the spectator now rests on the **Roodee**, a famous race-course, the drill-ground of troops, and the site of various fêtes. Time was when at every tide this area was flooded, with the exception of one small portion near the centre, on which stood a wooden cross, from which the spot obtained its name of "Rood Eye," or the "island of the cross."

Continuing along the walls, we arrive at the building called the **Castle**, which has already been described, and next we reach the **South**, or **Bridge Gate**, rebuilt in 1782. It leads to the **Dee Bridge**, a structure dating from the thirteenth century,

and having near it the site on which, until 1910, stood the Dee Mills of song and proverb.

The remaining portion of the walls is uninteresting, and therefore, instead of completing the circuit, the visitor who is not pressed for time will be well advised in proceeding from the Bridge Gate to the river bank, where, by going up the stream, he will pass through the **Groves**, or down the Recorder's Steps, a hundred yards farther on, and reach the **Landing Stage**. Here, at very moderate rates, boats can be hired for an excursion to **Eaton Hall**, the palatial residence of the Duke of Westminster, 5 miles distant. Steamers and electric launches also run thither, the landing-place being Eccleston Ferry, where light refreshments can be obtained. It is about ten minutes' walk to the Hall, to which visitors are admitted on payment of a small sum, the proceeds being devoted to local charities. The beautiful gardens can also be viewed. The road-route to the Hall is considerably shorter than the water-way, and the journey can be made by brake, 'bus or cab.

At the junction of Souters Lane and the Groves is the **Bishop's Palace**, and a little higher up the river is a **Suspension Bridge**, erected for the convenience of the residents of Queen's Park, on the south side of the river, when the estate was laid out for building purposes about the middle of the last century.

By taking the turning on the left, opposite the northern end of the Suspension Bridge, we can reach the attractive **Grosvenor Park**.

On the other side is the Church of **St. John the Baptist**, next to the Cathedral the most interesting ecclesiastical edifice in the city. It was begun about 1075, and was intended for the cathedral of the diocese that included Lichfield and Chester, but Coventry was chosen to be the seat of the bishop. The revenues were confiscated by Edward VI and the fabric was much mutilated, but the nave was allowed to remain for use as the Parish Church. The north-east clock tower and belfry were erected in 1887. The west window, presented by the late Duke of Westminster, illustrates the history of the city, from the massacre of the monks of Bangor-is-y-coed in 613, to the rectoration of episcopacy in the year 1660.

In the immediate neighbourhood of the Church, but in private grounds, are the ruins of **St. John's Priory**.

CHESTER TO CARNARVON.

From Chester to Rhyl the railway traveller has the choice of two routes. One runs along the coast, the other passes through Mold, Denbigh, and St. Asaph. The former is—



G. P. Abraham,]

SNOWDON, FROM THE PINNACLES.

[Keswick.



Slater,]

THE RIVER LLUGWY AND MOEL SIABOD.

[Darlington.

The Direct Route,

and forms part of the main route to Holyhead.

Leaving Chester station the line affords a splendid view of the Roodee, and then, crossing the Dee, enters Wales. The fourth station is at **Flint**, 14 miles from Chester. Nearly 3 miles farther is **Holywell**. Passing **Mostyn** and **Prestatyn**, Great Orme's Head comes into view, with Penmaenmawr to the west of it, and we soon arrive at **Rhyl**, some 30 miles from Chester.

Leaving Rhyl and proceeding in a westerly direction for a little over 4 miles, we reach **Abergele** and **Pensarn**. Immediately beyond the station is Gwrych Castle, on a hill-side on the left. At Llandulas, some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Abergele, are extensive lime works. About 2 miles farther we pass the village of Llysfaen, and then reach in quick succession the quiet village of **Old Colwyn** and the popular resort of **Colwyn Bay**, 11 miles from Rhyl. Four and a half miles farther we arrive at **Llandudno Junction** (*Refreshment Rooms*), from which a branch line runs northward to **Llandudno**, 3 miles distant, while another goes southward to **Bettws-y-Coed** and **Blaenau Festiniog**.

Almost immediately after leaving Llandudno Junction, on its way westward, the line crosses the mouth of the river Conway by a bridge of similar construction to the celebrated Britannia Bridge over the Menai Strait.

On leaving **Conway**, we have on the right Conway Morfa, much used in summer as a camping ground for Territorial battalions, and on the left the Conway Town Mountain.

Less than 5 miles from Conway we reach **Penmaenmawr**, a pleasant, quiet seaside resort, named from the adjacent headland. At the end of 3 miles we reach the village of **Llanfairfechan**, and 2 miles farther west arrive at **Aber**, famed for its waterfall. Continuing our journey for some 3 miles we then obtain glimpses of Penrhyn Castle on the right.

After crossing two viaducts which span the Ogwen river and valley, we pass through a tunnel which pierces the Bangor Mountain, and soon find ourselves at **Bangor**, 5 miles from Aber, and 60 from Chester.

From Bangor to Carnarvon, between 8 and 9 miles, the line skirts the Menai Strait. The first station is **Menai Bridge**. It is near the famous Suspension Bridge. Pro-

ceeding, we obtain good views of the Strait and its bridges and of the Anglesey Monument, and near Treborth, the second station, we may get a glimpse of the peak of Snowdon. After passing the next station, **Port Dinorwie**, we may see, on the Anglesey shore, the fine mansion of Plas-Newydd, long the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey. Then we reach **Carnarvon**.

The Pronunciation of Welsh Names.

If the stranger in Wales cares to set himself the task of learning the sounds of each of the Welsh letters the difficulty of pronouncing the place-names of the Principality will disappear. With the exception of *y* every character has a constant sound, which it retains in every variety of combination, and no letter is ever mute, although it may be so rapidly passed over that the untrained ear may fail to catch it. The accentuation, too, is governed by one general rule, which is this: All words of more than one syllable have the accent on the last syllable but one, excepting only a few instances, in which the last syllable, being either aspirated or circumflexed, takes the accent. Nearly all place-names are pictures, in the character of descriptions, which well repay learning. In order to aid the traveller in Wales, we append the Welsh alphabet, with an indication of the sound of each character; *w* and *y* are vowels.

A, as *a* English, in *man*; when circumflexed, as in *bard*, *glass*, etc.

B, *b* English.

C, as *k* English, or *c* hard, as in *can*, *come*, etc.; never soft as in *cease*, *city*, etc.

Ch. This is a strong guttural sound, and has no equivalent in English. It is a prolonged *k* (ach).

D, as *d* English.

Dd, as *th* English, in *then*, *they*, etc.; never as in *think*, *third*, etc.

E, as *e* English, in *ten*, *fen*, etc., but when circumflexed, as *a* in *dame*, *came*, etc.

F, as *v* in *vile*, *very*, etc., or as *f* English, in *of*.

Ff, as *f* English, in *fan*, *fight*, etc., or as *ff* in *off*.

G, as *g* English, in *gain*, *get*, *gone*, etc.; never soft as in *gin*, *gender*.

H, as *h* English, in *hand*, *house*, etc.

I, as *i* English, in *hid*, *bid*, *rid*, etc.; when circumflexed as *ee* in *fleet*, *keep*, etc.

L, as *l* English.

Ll, can be represented in English only by *thl*.

M, as *m* English.

N, as *n* English.

Ng, as *ng* in the English words *bring*, *king*, *long*, etc.

O, as *o* English, in *gone*, etc.; when circumflexed it is pronounced long, as in *bone*, *note*, etc.

P, as *p* English.

Ph, as *ph* English, in *physic*, *philosophy*, etc.

R, as *r* English.

Rh, as *rh* English, in *rhetoric*, *rheum*, etc.

S, as *s* English, in *sense*, *since*, etc.

T, as *t* English, in *ton*, *tun*, *temper*, etc.

Th, as *th* English, in *thanks*, *thick*, *death*; never as in *then*, *they*, etc.

U, as *i* English in *bliss*, *miss*, *this*; when circumflexed, as *ee* in *green*, *seen*, or like *u* French, in *une*, *feu*.

W, as *oo* English, in *good*; when circumflexed, as in *fool*, *spoon*, etc.

Y, in any other syllable except the last, is pronounced like the *u* in *but*, *chum*, *hunt*, etc., in the last, like *i* in *din* or *sin*.

These two sounds are well exemplified by the word *sundry*, the *u* and *y* of which represent the *y* in its relative positions.

When circumflexed, *y* is exactly the same as *u* (see above).

The following six letters are not found in the Welsh language: *J*, *K*, *Q*, *V*, *X*, and *Z*. *J* is supplied by *si* or *i*. *K* is supplied by *c* or *ch*. *Q*, in words taken from other languages, is *e* preceded by *cw*, as *cwestiwn*—question. *V* is supplied by a single *f*. *X*, in foreign words having this letter, is indicated by *cs*, as *Ecsodus*—*Exodus*. *Z* is supplied by *s*.

Pronunciation of Welsh Names of Places.

Abergele	<i>ab-er-gel-ly</i>	Dwygyfylchi	<i>doo-e-guv-ul-ke</i>
Ardudwy	<i>ar-did-ooy</i>	Fammau	<i>vamma</i>
Beaumaris	<i>bo-morris</i>	Glyndyfrdwy	<i>glun-duv'r-dooe</i>
Beddgelert	<i>beth-gelert</i>	Llandudno	<i>thlandidno</i>
Bettws-y-Coed	<i>bettoos-i-koed</i>	Llandulas	<i>thlandilás</i>
Bodelwyddan	<i>bod-el-wuthan</i>	Machynlleth	<i>mak-unth-leth</i>
Bont-ddu	<i>bont-thee</i>	Pen-y-Gwryd	<i>penny-goorid</i>
Cader Idris	<i>kad-er ed-res</i>	Pwllheli	<i>poolth-helley</i>
Capel Curig	<i>kappel-kirrig</i>	Rhyl	<i>rhil</i>
Clwyd	<i>cloo-id</i>	Ruthin	<i>rithin</i>
Diphwys	<i>dif-foos</i>	Taliesin	<i>tal-yess-in</i>
Dolgelly	<i>dol-geth-ley</i>	Tal-y-Llyn	<i>tal-e-thlin</i>
Dolwyddelen	<i>dokwuthelen</i>	Wnion	<i>oo-ni-on</i>

Mountaineering.

The majority of those who use this book and do any mountaineering will probably rest content with ascending and descending Snowdon by the railroad or by one of the most frequented footpaths, and therefore will need to make little or no special provision for their guidance or safety. Of the few who will find pleasure in getting off the beaten tracks, there may be some who need reminding that no excursion to unfrequented spots should be undertaken without a pocket compass and a reliable map on a large scale. In using the former it must be remembered that the needle does not point

to the true north. Roughly speaking, its direction at the present time in Great Britain is to a point some $18^{\circ} 5'$ to the west of north.

In addition to the above requisites, the outfit should include a stick, a waterproof, and a well-filled sandwich box.

If a climber is overtaken by a mist, the safest plan is to descend by the side of a stream.

Books for Holiday Reading.

As the interest of a holiday is often greatly increased by the perusal of books relating to the district visited, readers may be glad to have a few titles. No such list can claim to be exhaustive.

Chester figures in *God's Providence House*, a story of the Plague by Mrs. G. Linnæus Banks; *A Lady of Wales* (siege of Chester), by V. J. Leatherdale, and *Eventide Light* (1588-96), by Mrs. E. Marshall. Chester is described also in William Black's delightful *Strange Adventures of a Phaeton*, and in *Set in Silver*, by the Williamsons. Early chapters of Henry Kingsley's *Austin Elliot* have their setting in Bangor, and describe Aber, etc. *Blodwen*, by W. Prys Williams is located in Colwyn Bay and Conway. Charles Kingsley's *Two Years Ago* has a thrilling episode on the heights above Pen-y-Gwryd. *Gwyneth of the Welsh Hills*, by Edith Nepean, and *A Son of Arvon*, by Gwendolen Pryce, are located near Bettws-y-Coed. The village in Mrs. Gaskell's *Ruth* is Festiniog. Three novels of Anglesey are, *John Jones*, *Curale*, *A Long Shadow*, by Gwendolyn Pryce, and *Megan of the Dark Isle*, by Mrs. J. O. Arnold. Other stories dealing with Welsh life and thought are:—*The Jewel of Ynys Galon*, by Owen Rhoscomyl, a story of pirates and much fighting; *Battlement and Tower*, by the same author, a stirring story of Conway Castle and Plas Mawr in the days of the Civil War; *Owen Rees*, by Eleazar Roberts; *The Little Widow*, by William Tirebuck; *Sweetheart Gwen*, a charming Welsh farming idyll; *A Welsh Singer*, *On the Wings of the Wind*, *A Welsh Witch*, *Torn Sails*, *By Berwen Banks*, *Queen of the Rushes*, *Garthowen*, and others by Allen Raine. Some of the most delightful of recent novels are those by Mrs. Fred Reynolds: *A Tangled Garden*, *St. David's of the Dust*, *In the Years that came after*, *Llanarto*, and *The Man with the Wooden Face*. All have to

do with North Wales and describe real places. Of the English translation of *Rhys Lewis* by Daniel Owen, Mr. Gladstone said, "Its delineations of the Welsh character are the best I have seen." Last, but by no means least, mention must be made of Theodore Watts-Dunton's fascinating love-story *Aylwin*, a perusal of which should certainly precede a visit to Snowdonia.

Turning to books whose aim is more purely informative or descriptive, we have *Bird Life in North Wales*, by J. Walpole-Bond; *Fishing in North Wales*, by W. M. Gallichan, and *Rock Climbing in North Wales*, by G. and A. Abraham. Travel is splendidly headed by George Borrow's *Wild Wales*, a fascinating description of his tour in 1854. *Through North Wales with a Knapsack* (Anon.) and *Motor Tours in Wales*, by Mrs. R. Stawell, deal with the old and the new, the best and the worst ways of seeing the mountains. Other books, whose titles are self-explanatory, are *Beautiful Wales*, by E. Thomas, *The Holyhead Road*, Vol. 2, by C. G. Harper, and *The Welsh Border*, by Harper and Heppel. *Four Welsh Counties*, by E. A. Kilner, includes Carnarvonshire and Merioneth. There is *The Book of North Wales*, by S. Baring-Gould. *Highways and Byways in North Wales*, by A. G. Bradley is one of a well-known series. It is illustrated by Hugh Thomson and Joseph Pennell.

Hotels and Tariffs.

There is rarely difficulty in securing suitable accommodation in North Wales, though during July, August and September early inquiry is desirable. In all the principal touring centres and seaside resorts excellent hotels and boarding houses are to be found and many of the residents let apartments.

The tariffs in the following list were in all cases supplied by the hotel proprietors themselves, but as changes of management are frequent and terms are apt to vary according to season, it is as well to verify the prices by previous inquiry.

Week-end terms include dinner or supper on Saturday and breakfast on Monday. Where the accommodation includes *Motor Garage* a note to that effect is made.

North Wales (b)

[ABBREVIATIONS.—R., bedroom; b., breakfast; l., luncheon; t., tea.; d., dinuer; a., attendance; fr., from; temp., temperance.]

Aber.

Aber:

Abergele and Pensarn.

Bee: R., single, 2/6; double, 4/-; b. or l., 2/-; t., fr. 1/-; d., 2/6.
Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day; 55/- per week; 15/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Hesketh: R., single, 3/-; double, 5/6; b., 2/6; l., 3/-; t., 1/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/- per week. Garage.

Anglesey.

See under Amlwch, Beaumaris, Bull Bay, Holyhead, Red Wharf Bay, Rhosneigr, etc.

Amlwch.

Dinorben Arms: R., fr. 5/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/6; t., fr. 1/-; d., 3/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 8/- per day; 50/- per week; 16/- per week-end.

Bangor.

British: R., single, fr. 3/6; double, fr. 7/-; b., fr. 2/9; l., fr. 3/-; t., fr. 1/3; d., fr. 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 per day; 84/- per week; 25/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Castle: R., single, 4/-; double, 8/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/-; t., 1/3; d., 4/-; a., Nil.

Boarding terms: 14/- per day; 98/- per week; 28/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Rowlands* (temp.): R., single, 2/-; double 3/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/-; t., 1/6.

Beaumaris.

Bulkeley Arms: R., single, 7/-; double, 14/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/-; t., 1/6 and 2/6; d., 5/-;

Boarding terms: 14/6 per day; 94/6 per week.

White Lion.

Orwell House.

Beddgelert.

Royal Goat: R., single, fr. 4/6; double, fr. 8/-; b., 2/6; l., 3/-; t., 1/6; d., 4/6.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 77/- per week. Motor Garage.

Saracen's Head: R., single, 3/-; double, 5/6; b., 2/6; l., 3/-; t., 1/6; d., 4/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 63/- per week; 27/- per week-end. Garage.

Temperance.

Benllech.

Glan Mafon.

Bethesda.

Douglas Arms.
Victoria.

Bettws-y-Coed.

Waterloo: R., single, fr. 3/-; double, fr. 5/-; b., fr. 1/6; l., fr. 2/6; t., 1/6; d., fr. 4/6; a., 1/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week. Motor Garage.

Royal Oak: R., single, 6/6; double, 10/6; b., 3/6; l., 3/6; t., 1/6; d., 5/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 105/- per week. Garage.

Gwydir.

Glan Aber: R., fr. 2/6; b., fr. 1/6; l., fr. 2/-; t., fr. 1/-; d., fr. 2/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 7/6 per day; fr. 52/6 per week. Garage.

Pont-y-Pair: R., single, 3/-; double, 5/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., fr. 1/-; d., 3/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 63/- per week; 18/6 per week-end.

Blaenau Ffestiniog.

North Western: R., single, 4/-; double, 7/-; b., 2/6; l., 3/-; t., 1/-; d., 4/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 80/- per week. Motor Garage.

Queen's: R., single, 3/6; double, 6/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/6; t., 1/6; d., 4/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 72/6 per week.

Bodorgan.

Bodorgan Arms.

Meyrick Arms.

Maenofferen, Motor Garage.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Bull Bay.

Bull Bay: *R.* single, 6/6; double, 10/6;
b. 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.* 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.
Boarding terms: from 10/6
per day; fr. 42/- per week.

Trecastle (private): *R.*, single, 3/6;
double, 7/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/6;
t., 1/6; *d.*, 5/6.

Boarding terms: 14/6 to 21/-
per day; 100/- to 140/- per
week; 23/- per week-end.

Capel Curig.

Royal.

Cobden's: *R.*, single, 4/6; double,
7/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 11/- to 15/-
per day; fr. 91/- to 105/-
per week. Motor Garage.

Tyn-y-Coed: *R.*, single, 5/-; double,
7/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6;
d., 4/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 84/- per week.

Pen-y-Gwryd: *R.*, single, fr. 3/-;
double, fr. 4/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day;
fr. 63/- per week. Garage.

Bryntych: *R.*, single, 3/6; double,
6/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/3;
d., 2/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 9/- per day
for 3 or more days; 55/- per
week. Motor Garage.

Carnarvon.

Royal: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 10/-;
b., 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-;
a., nil.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day;
84/- per week. Garage.

Sportsman: *R.*, single, 4/-; double,
6/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*,
4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per
day; 63/- per week; 21/-
per week-end. Motor Garage.

**Castle.
Mona.**

Chester.

Queen's: *R.*, single, 6/6; double,
12/6; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/-;
d., 5/6; *a.*, nil. Motor Garage.

Grosvenor: *R.*, single, fr. 5/-;
double, fr. 10/-; *b.*, fr. 2/-; *l.*,
3/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 per
day. Motor Garage.

Hop-Pole.

Blossoms: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-; double,
fr. 7/6; *b.*, or *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*,
4/-; *a.*, nil.

Westminster: *R.*, single 5/-; double,
9/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/6;
d., 4/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 15/- per day;
94/6 per week; 30/- per
week-end.

Washington (temp.): *R.*, single,
4/6; double, 8/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6;
t., 1/6; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day;
73/6 per week.

Northlands (private): 10/- per day;
63/- per week.

Bull and StIRRup, Northgate St.: *R.*,
single, 2/6; double 4/-; *b.*, 2/-
l., 2/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, fr. 2/6.

Boarding terms: 7/- per day;
45/- per week; 12/6 week-end.

Colwyn.

Marine.

Queen's: *R.*, single, 3/6; double,
5/6; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*,
3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 7/6 per
day; fr. 52/6 per week; fr.
17/- per week-end. Garage.

Colwyn Bay.

(See also under Rhos-on-Sea.)

Pwllerochan.

Colwyn Bay.

**Private Hotels and Boarding Establish-
ments.**

Metropole.

Gilbertville, Promenade.

Rothsay, Promenade: fr. 9/6 to
15/6 per day.

Conway.

Oakwood Park: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-;
double, fr. 7/6; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6;
t., 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, 1/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 9/- per day;
fr. 63/- per week; fr. 18/- per
week-end. Motor Garage.

Castle.

Bridge.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Erskine: *R.*, single, 3/-; double, 6/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, fr. 1/-; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 10/- per day, 63/- per week.

Manchester (*Temp.*)

Deganwy.

Castle: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 10/-; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms:—From 15/- to 21/- per day.

Denbigh.

Bull.

Crown.

Royal Oak (*temp.*), High Street.

Dolwyddelen.

Elen's Castle: *R.*, single, 2/6; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 6/6 per day; 42/- per week; 15/- per week-end. Garage.

Gwydir Arms.

Dwygyfylchi.

Dwygyfylchi.

Fairy Glen.

Glan Conway.

Conway Vale: *R.*, single, fr. 2/6; double fr. 4/6; *b.*, 1/-; *l.*, 1/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 2/-.

Boarding terms: Tariff on application. Motor Garage.

Hawarden.

Glynne Arms: *R.*, single, 4/-; double, 6/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 63/- per week; 20/- per week-end.

Fox.

Blue Bell.

Holyhead.

Station: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-; double, fr. 6/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 63/- per week. Motor Garage.

George.

Victoria (*temp.*): *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 3/-; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, 1/-; *t.*, fr. 6d.; *d.*, 1/6.

Boarding terms: 4/- per day; 12/- per week-end.

Holywell.

Victoria.

King's Head: *R.*, single, 2/-; double, 3/-; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*, 6d.

Boarding terms: Tariff on application. Motor Garage.

Llanberis.

Royal Victoria: *R.*, single, 6/-; double, 9/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 14/- per day; 84/- per week; 25/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Padarn Villa: *R.*, single, 4/-; double, 7/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/6; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 72/6 per week; 21/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Dolbadarn: *R.*, single, 3/-; double, 5/6; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 8/- per day; 45/- per week. Garage.

Castle: *R.*, single, 3/-; double, 5/-; *b.*, fr. 2/- to 2/6; *l.*, fr. 2/3 to 2/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, fr. 2/6 to 3/-; *a.*, 1/- per night.

Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 55/- per week; 18/- per week-end. Garage.

Llandudno.

St. George's: *R.*, single, fr. 5/6; double, fr. 10/6; *b.*, 3/6; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 6/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 15/6 per day for 3 or more days. Garage.

Imperial: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 8/-; *b.* or *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week; fr. 24/- per week-end. Garage.

Marine: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 8/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 12/- per day; 73/6 per week; fr. 24/- per week-end. Garage.

Grand: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-; double fr. 7/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; Motor Garage.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—R., bedroom; b., breakfast; l., luncheon; t., tea; d., dinner; a., attendance; fr., from; temp., temperance.]

Empire: R., single, 3/6; double, 7/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/-; t., fr. 1/-; d., 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day; fr. 60/- per week.

Gogarth Abbey: R., single, fr. 4/-; double, fr. 7/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 4/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day; fr. 73/6 per week. Garage.

Royal: R., single, 5/-; double, 10/-; b., 3/6; l., 3/6; t., 1/3; d., 6/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 16/- per day. Garage.

Hydropathic Establishment: R., single, 4/-; double, 7/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., 9d.; d., 4/-.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; 70/- per week. Garage.

Craigside Hydropathic: *Boarding terms:* fr. 10/6 to 15/- per day. Garage.

Queen's: R., single, fr. 5/-; double, fr. 10/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/6; t., 1/6; d., 5/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 15/6 per day; fr. 105/- per week.

Private Hotels and Boarding Establishments.

Craig-y-don (temp.) fr. 10/6 per day.

Ormescliffe: R. single, 3/-; double, 6/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 3/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: —fr. 10/- per day.

Moon's: fr. 10/6 per week-end.

Elsinore.

Bryn-y-mor: *Boarding terms:* July to September; fr. 10/- to 12/- per day; from 70/- to 84/- per week.

Crescent.

Wave Crest.

Sherwood.

Glan-y-Mor.

Brig-y-Don.

Klunel House.

Overstrand.

Davies.

Paradwys (apartments).

Garage.

Deacon & Son, Ltd., Vaughan Street.

Llandudno Junction.

Station: R., single, fr. 4/-; double, fr. 8/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/-; t., 1/6; d., 4/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 14/- per day; fr. 84/- per week; fr. 26/- per week-end.

North Western: R., single, 4/-; double, 5/-; b., fr. 2/6 to 3/-; l., 3/6; t., 1/6; a., 6d.

Boarding terms: Tariff on application. Garage.

Llanfairfechan.

Balmoral.

Queen's.

Regina (private): R., single, 7/-; double 10/-; b., 3/-; l., 4/-; t., 1/6; d., 5/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 18/6 per day; 126/- per week.

Castle: R., single, fr. 2/6; double, fr. 4/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/-; t., 1/-; d., 3/-.

Boarding terms: Tariff on application.

Llanrwst.

Victoria: R., single, 5/-; double, 10/-; b., 3/-; l., 3/-; t., 1/6; d., 5/-; a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 12/6 to 15/- per day; fr. 84/- to 105/- per week.

Albion: R., single, 3/6; double, 5/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., 1/6; d., 2/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; fr. 21/- per week-end.

King's Head (temp.).

Menai Bridge.

Anglesey Arms: R., single, fr. 3/-; double, fr. 6/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., 1/6; d., 3/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/- per week.

Bulkeley Arms: R., single, 2/6; double, 3/6; b., 2/-; l., 2/6; t., 1/3; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 8/6 per day; 59/6 per week; 15/- per week-end. Garage.

Victoria. Motor Garage.

[ABBREVIATIONS—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Mostyn.

Mostyn Arms: *R.*, single, 2/-; double, 3/6; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 2/-.

Boarding terms: Tariff on application. Garage.

Penmaenmawr.

Grand: *R.*, single, *fr.* 4/-; double, *fr.* 6/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 4/6.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 12/- per day; *fr.* 84/- per week. Garage.

Mora.

Brob Eryrl.

Penygwryd (near Llanberis).

Penygwryd: *R.*, single, 3/6; double, *fr.* 4/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day; *fr.* 63/- per week. Garage.

Prestatyn.

Royal Victoria: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 9/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 15/- per day; 90/- per week; 35/- per week-end. Motor Garage.

Nant Hall: *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 8/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 5/-.

Boarding terms: 13/6 per day; 94/6 per week; 25/6 per week-end. Motor Garage.

Colinton (boarding).

Edgemond (boarding).

Red Wharf Bay.

Min-y-don: *R.*, single, 3/-; double, 5/-; *b.*, 2/6; *d.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/-; supper, 2/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 12/6 per day; 84/- per week.

Bryntirion: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/-; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 3/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 11/- per day; *fr.* 56/- per week; *fr.* 18/- per week-end.

Rhos-on-Sea.

(See also Colwyn Bay).

Rhos Abbey: *R.*, single, *fr.* 4/-; double, *fr.* 7/6; *b.*, *fr.* 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 4/6.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 73/6 per week.

St. Winifred's (private): *R.*, single, 6/-; double 10/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 10/6 per day; *fr.* 73/6 per week.

Rhos Point (private).

Inlshmore (private).

Mount Stewart (private). Tariff on application.

Belvedere (private). Tariff on application.

The Towers (private); *fr.* 10/6 to 15/- per day.

Rhos Hydro (private); *R.*, single, 5/-; double, 9/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 10/6 per day; *fr.* 70/- per week; 25/- per week-end.

Rhosneigr.

Bay: *R.*, single, *fr.* 5/-; double, *fr.* 10/-; *b.*, *fr.* 3/6; *l.*, *fr.* 3/6; *t.*, *fr.* 1/6; *d.*, *fr.* 6/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 13/- to 17/- per day; *fr.* 105/- to 115/6 per week.

Closed October 15 to Easter.

Maelog Lake.

Rhyl.

Queen's. Motor Garage.

Belvoir: *R.*, single, 4/6; double, 9/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*, 4/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 12/6 per day.

Imperial.

Westminster: *R.*, single, *fr.* 5/-; double, *fr.* 10/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 14/- per day.

Marine Hydro. Motor Garage.

Alexandra.

Grosvenor.

Marlborough (private); East Parade.

Boarding terms: *fr.* 10/- per day; 66/- per week; 20/- per week-end.

Plasterion (private). Tariff on application.

Rhuddlan.

Castle.

Marsh.

New.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Ruthin.

Castle : *R.*, single, 4/6; double, 6/6;
b., 3/-; *l.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 5/-;
a., nil.

Boarding terms : 12/6 per day;
84/- per week.

Wynnstay Arms : *R.*, single, 3/6;
double, 5/-; *b.*, fr. 2/-; *l.*, fr. 2/-;
t., 1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms : Tariff on appli-
cation.

Cross Keys (*temp.*).

St. Asaph.

Plough.
Kinmel Arms.
Bryndinas.

Trefriw.

Belle Vue : *R.*, single, 6/6; double,
10/6; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 3/-; *t.*, 1/3;
d., 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms : 18/- per day;
fr. 105/- per week. Garage.

Imperial (*boarding*).

ANGLING RESORTS.

North Wales is highly attractive to the angler, as there is good trout-fishing, free or almost free, in nearly all its lakes and streams, while in the Dee, Clwyd, Conway and Seiont excellent salmon catches are made. See also the *Guide to North Wales, Southern Section*.

Trefriw, Llanrwst, and Bettws-y-Coed, for salmon fishing in the Conway, and in the Lledr and Llugwy. See Bettws-y-Coed Section.

Pont-y-Pant and Dolwyddelen for the Lledr.

Tickets for the day, week, month, or season for all the above waters obtainable as recorded in the chapter on Bettws-y-Coed.

Capel Curig, for the Capel Curig lakes, and other lakes, and river-fishing. Season tickets, 3s.; Llyn Ogwen, free.

Carnarvon and Llanberis, for the Seiont, Gwyfrai, and Llyfni rivers, Llyn Padarn and Llyn Peris, and numerous small lakes. For salmon and sewin in the Seiont, the tickets are, 5s. for the season, 2s. 6d. a week, 1s. a day. In addition, the angler must have a licence, which costs 15s. a season; 10s. 6d. a month; 5s. a week; 2s. 6d. a day. On Llyn Padarn boats can be hired at 1s. per hour. The fishing on Llyn Peris (trout and char) and Llyn Padarn is free to visitors at the Royal Victoria and Padarn Villa Hotels.

Beddgelert, for the Colwyn and Glaslyn rivers, and Lakes Ddinas, Gwynant and Gader. Trout, 2s. a day, 5s. a week, 15s. a month, 40s. for the season. Salmon, with

trout tickets, plus licence, 1s. a day, 2s. a week, 5s. a month, 10s. for the season. Visitors at the Royal Goat Hotel can have free fishing on Lakes Ddinas and Gwynant, and in 7 miles of the river Glaslyn.

St. Asaph, Denbigh and the Vale of Clwyd. Licences for fishing on the Elwy and Clwyd are issued by the Fishery Board as follows : salmon, £1 for the season ; trout and char, 4s.6d. for the season, and 2s. weekly. In addition there is a Fishing Association which issues permits to fish in preserved waters on the Elwy and Clwyd, viz. :—salmon, season £1, weekly 6s. ; trout and char, season 15s., weekly 6s.

Aber and Llanfairfechan for free fishing in the Aber stream and lake, and several other waters.

Rhosneigr and Llangefni. Fishing free or at a moderate charge. *See* Anglesey section.

RHYL.

Access.—All express trains call at Rhyl. There are through carriages from the principal towns. By the fast trains the run from Chester takes only 40 minutes; from Liverpool about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours; from Manchester, $1\frac{1}{2}$; from Birmingham 3, and from London (Euston Station), non-stop train in the season, just under 4 hours.

Amusements.—A greater variety than in any other town on the Welsh coast. They include bathing, boating, fishing, croquet, bowls, tennis, golf; concerts, band and theatrical performances, hippodrome entertainments, cinematograph shows, a skating rink, a water chute, miniature, scenic and figure 8 railways, coach and motor tours and steamboat excursions.

Banks.—*Barclay's*; London County, Westminster & Parr's; London Joint City and Midland; National Provincial and Union.

Bathing.—The charge for a machine is 6d. Bathing without machines (when properly attired) is also permitted on the shore and is very popular. At the Marine Lake, which is open to bathers all day, there are dressing-rooms. There are Russian, Turkish and other baths at the Marine Hydro, Marine Drive; and at the Rhyl Baths, Sussex Street, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., at reasonable charges. At the Sussex Street Baths is a sea-water swimming tank 75 feet by 30 feet.

Boating:—

Sailing Boats. For a whole boat, 5s. per hour, and 2s. for every additional half-hour or portion thereof. When the whole boat is not taken, 1s. per hour for each passenger, and 6d. for every additional half-hour, or portion thereof.

Rowing Boats. For a whole boat, 2s. 6d. per hour, and 1s. for every additional half-hour or portion thereof. When the whole boat is not taken, 9d. per hour for each passenger, and 3d. for every additional half-hour or portion thereof. On the Marine Lake, which is always open on week-days, being independent of tides, the charge for a boat is 1s. per hour for each person.

Botanical Gardens in Grange Road, about half a mile from the Promenade, *via* the Gladstone Bridge. These have been acquired by the town and converted into recreation grounds.

Bowls.—Excellent greens, open to visitors, at Seabank Road, the Dudley Hotel (High Street) and in the Pleasure Gardens on the Promenade.

Cab and Carriage Fares.—For a one-horse vehicle the authorized charge *by time* is 3s. for one hour, and 9d. for every additional quarter of an hour or portion thereof. *By distance*, 1s. per mile and 6d. for any part of a mile after the first. Half these rates for the return journey.

Churches and Chapels, with hours of Sunday services:—

Trinity, Russel Road (Parish Church)—Welsh services, 11 and 6.30.

St. Thomas's, Russell Road—8, 11, 3.30 and 6.30.

St. John's, Wellington Road—11 and 6.30.

St. Ann's, Vale Road—services in Welsh and English.

Roman Catholic, Wellington Road—10.30 and 6.30.

Presbyterian, Princes Street—11 and 6.30.

Congregational, Water Street—11 and 6.30.

Baptist, Sussex Street—11 and 6.30.

Wesleyan, Brighton Road—11 and 6.30.

There are also several chapels in which the services (10 and 6) are in Welsh

Clubs.—*Rhyl and County*, Market Street ; *Constitutional*, Market Street ; *Liberal*, Sussex Street.

Distances.
(*By Rail.*)

MILES.		MILES.		MILES.	
Abergele	5	Denbigh	11	Manchester	70
Bangor	30	Dyserth	6	Mostyn	10
Bettws-y-Coed . .	30	Holywell	14	Prestatyn	3½
Birmingham . . .	105	Liverpool	46	Rhuddlan Castle . .	3½
Chester	30	Llandudno	17½	Ruthin	18
Colwyn Bay	10½	London	210	St. Asaph	6
Conway	15				

(*By Road.*)

MILES.		MILES.		MILES.	
Abergele	6	Colwyn Bay	12	Llandudno	20
Bettws-y-Coed . . .	26	Conway	16	Pantasaph	12
Bodelwyddan . . .	6	Denbigh Castle . .	12	Rhuddlan	3
Bodryddan	4	Dyserth Waterfall .	4	St. Mary's Well . .	9
Cefn Rocks	9	Gwrych Castle . . .	7	St. Winefride's Well	14
Chester	31	Kimmel Park . . .	6	St. Asaph	6

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Fishing.—Good sport is obtained in the Elwy and the Clwyd, and the reservoir at Llanefydd holds a large quantity of trout. Portions of the rivers are free, and parts are preserved by the Clwyd and Elwy Fishing Association. Weekly ticket, 6s.; season ticket, 15s. In addition, week's licence, 2s.; season's, 4s. 6d. Sea-fishing from the pier and from boats is good and popular.

Golf.—On the shore between Rhyl and Prestatyn there is an excellent course of 18 holes. It is 6,180 yards long, is three-fourths of a mile from the station and has a comfortable and commodious clubhouse. The membership of the club exceeds 200. Day tickets for visitors, 2s. 6d. each; weekly, 10s; monthly, 25s.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Libraries.—At the principal booksellers there are excellent subscription libraries. **Free Public Library**, in the Town Hall block of buildings, with a Reading Room and a Reference Room to which visitors have access.

Newspapers.—*Rhyl Journal* (Friday), 1d.; *Rhyl Record and Advertiser* (Friday), 1d.; *Rhyl News* (Friday), 2d.

Population.—9,005.

Post Office.—The Chief Office is in High Street. Open for postal business, on weekdays, in summer, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; for telegraph and telephone business from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Sundays, from 8.30 to 10 a.m.

Railway Station.—On the London and North-Western line. It is the finest in North Wales. The total length of the platforms is nearly a mile.

Tennis.—There are courts, to which visitors are admitted, at a charge of 6d. per hour each person, at the Marine Lake (Grosvenor Club), on the Municipal Tennis Lawns, East Parade, and in the Marine Gardens on the Promenade.

Theatres.—*New Pavilion, Grand and Hippodrome, Picture Palace, and Pier Amphitheatre.*

RHYL—"Breezy, Bracing, Rhyl," and "Sunny Rhyl," as residents with good reason call it—is one of the chief watering-places in the Principality, a position it has attained with almost startling suddenness. In 1820 the place consisted only of a few detached dwellings. It has become a favourite resort of all sorts and conditions of tourists,

who in the aggregate exceed 100,000 in the course of each season.

The site is flat, but the popularity of the town is deserved and can readily be accounted for.

Its attractions are partly natural, partly the result of the enterprise of the local governing body, which has been untiring in its efforts to promote the comfort and pleasure of visitors, and to maintain the healthiness of the town. The Council have in hand extensive development schemes, including new gardens on the front, open-air swimming baths, and a model yacht-lake.

One of the chief recommendations of Rhyl to holiday-makers is its accessibility. It is but a short run from populous Manchester and Liverpool, and is the nearest seaside town to the teeming manufacturing centres of the Midlands, while the excellent train service of the London and North-Western Railway Co., combined with low fares, make it accessible to Londoners, even those with but a moderately filled purse.

The Sands.

Another great attraction, especially in those cases where a suitable holiday playground for the children is the main consideration in determining the course of the annual migration, is Rhyl's magnificent beach. There are neither cliffs nor quicksands to place little visitors in danger, but firm, smooth, golden sands, that extend for miles and form a veritable "Children's Paradise"; while young and old alike, who regard a daily "dip" as one of the chief pleasures of visits to the seaside, hold Rhyl beach in high esteem for the facilities it affords for safe and pleasant bathing.

The Climate.

That the pleasures of the beach may be enjoyed in fullest measure, it is necessary that the weather should be propitious, and especially that there should be a maximum of sunny hours. Fortunately, sunshine is one of the characteristic features of the climate of Rhyl. In 1918 there was bright sunshine on no fewer than 302 days, the total amount being 1584 hours 54 minutes. In July, the sunniest month, 229 hours 30 minutes were registered, and there were no sunless days. During the past ten years Rhyl has enjoyed 3,091 days on which bright sunshine was registered, or a yearly average of 309 sunny days.

In other respects also the climate of Rhyl has admirable characteristics. Fog is absolutely unknown; snow and frost are rarely seen, and the rainfall is exceedingly low, as is demonstrated by the meteorological tables, which are carefully kept by the Medical Officer of Health. By reason of the lightness of the soil on which the town is built, the surface of the ground soon becomes dry after rain. The town is well sheltered from easterly winds, but its expansive sea-front and the prevalence of north-westerly breezes give it a bracing air. King George V, then Prince of Wales, during his visit to Rhyl in June, 1902, spoke of the climate as "fine, healthy and bracing," and in so describing it had the authority of medical men. Sir Charles Cameron once said that "the bracing air of Rhyl made one long to live there always." Sir William Gull, M.D., said of the town, "Its position seemed to me most favourable to health, and I have on more than one occasion sent patients there, and especially for certain cardiac affections." The late Dr. Evans, of Birmingham, who was a frequent visitor to Rhyl, said that it was "unrivalled in the United Kingdom as a residence for consumptive patients."

Water Supply, etc.

In the important matters of water supply and the disposal of refuse, Rhyl meets, to the fullest extent, all modern requirements. There is a constant and abundant supply of the purest drinking water. It is brought from immense reservoirs at Llanefydd, ten miles from the town, and the local authority has full control over the gathering-ground, so that there is no fear of contamination.

The sanitary arrangements are as perfect as money and science can make them. They excited the admiration of Sir Charles Cameron, who declared that Rhyl's sanitary system was "one of the best he had ever seen."

The town is laid out with wide and well-paved thoroughfares. The first which the visitor sees on leaving the railway station are **Bodfor Street**, and **Queen Street**, which run in a direct line between the station and the sea-front, as does also **High Street**, the next thoroughfare eastward.

Between the seaward ends of these streets stand three of Rhyl's many places of amusement. One is the **Grand Theatre**, built in 1912, with accommodation for 1,500 persons;



T. Wills Jones.]

MARINE GARDENS, RHYL.

[Rhyl.



T. Wills Jones,

[*Rhyl.*

THE PAVILION, RHYL.



T. Wills Jones,

[*Rhyl.*

EAST PARADE, RHYL.

adjoining is the **Hippodrome and Picture Palace**, with accommodation for 2,500 ; while on the Promenade is the **New Pavilion**, with one of the finest stages in Wales and seating accommodation for 1,500. '

Long rows of terraces face the sea, from which they are divided by—

The Marine Drive and Promenade,

which extend along the entire front of the town from east to west, a distance of some two miles. There is an upper and a lower Marine Parade, with sandhills between. The Promenade is asphalted throughout, and at night is lit by electricity, as are also the principal streets. At intervals there are grass plots and kiosks for shelter, and ample seating accommodation is provided. On one of the grass plots is a **Memorial** of Rhyl men who fell in the Boer War.

The **West Parade** affords a strong protection against inroads of the sea. When the tide is high and the weather stormy, the dash of the waves upon the wall is a very interesting spectacle, watched often by great crowds. Towards the east, too, are defence works, undertaken for the double purpose of extending the Promenade and preserving the sand-hills that characterize this part of the coast.

In the centre of the Promenade are—

The Town Pavilion and Marine Gardens.

In the latter are tennis courts and croquet lawns, and daily band performances are given during the season. As the paths are asphalted, and there are seats and shelters, the enclosure forms a pleasant retreat, and is a favourite resort of visitors.

The **Pavilion** will hold 2,000 persons, and is well equipped for theatrical performances, concerts, etc. It is of handsome design, and the interior has been so arranged that the view of the stage is uninterrupted by pillars. A conspicuous feature is the octagonal dome, 60 feet in diameter, constructed entirely of ferro-concrete. Verandahs run completely round the building, giving a fine view of the town and sea.

Eastward of the Pavilion and its surrounding gardens is—

The Promenade Pier,

nearly half a mile in length. This has been acquired by

the town and is to be entirely rebuilt and modernized. The extreme end affords splendid views of the coast and of the mountainous area between Conway and Bangor, the points in the prospect being Carnedd Llewelyn, rising behind the wooded hill on which stands Gwrych Castle, taking in point of height the second place among the mountains of Wales; Y Foel Fras, a round summit to the right of Llewelyn; Tal-y-Fan to the left of the lime works at Llan-dulas, and Penmaenmawr to their right; the Great Orme and the Little Orme.

At the pier entrance gardens are being laid out, with storm shelters, and a new amphitheatre is to be built for concert parties.

Eastward of the pier is the **Lifeboat House**.

On the West Promenade is the **Queen's Skating Rink** (open during the winter), which has maple floor-space of 40,000 feet, so that it is one of the largest rinks in the kingdom. The building also contains a fine roof garden, available for dancing.

At the western extremity of the Promenade is—

The Foryd Bridge.

(Toll for pedestrians and cyclists, *id.*)

Foryd means the *Ford of the Sea*. The bridge spans the estuary of the river Clwyd, and commands a view of a large portion of the **Vale of Clwyd**, through which the stream flows. This Vale, which has been described as "the Eden of Wales," is very extensive compared with the size of its river, being some 24 miles in length and from 5 to 7 miles in breadth, while the greatest width of the river is usually barely 10 yards. The banks, however, are low, and after heavy rain the swollen stream floods the adjacent land and rolls onward to the sea with destructive force. In the Vale are the three towns of St. Asaph, Denbigh and Ruthin. The first-named is the nearest to Rhyl, and the tower of its cathedral is one of the objects in the prospect from Foryd Bridge. A more conspicuous object is Rhuddlan Castle, to the left of the Cathedral, while to the right is the lofty spire of Bodelwyddan Church. Then away to the left again, and barely visible, are the scanty remains of Dyserth Castle, over which rises Newmarket Cop, famed for the view it commands, and for the great tumulus on its summit. To the right of the Cop are

Moel Hiraddug, and, farther away, Moel Fammau. The prospect from the bridge is finest at high tide, as then the estuary is full of water.

During the season yacht races take place in the Foryd and motor boats run to Rhuddlan Castle.

Just southward of the road that crosses Foryd Bridge is—

The Marine Lake,

a sheet of ornamental water which has replaced an unsightly and treacherous swamp that formerly bordered the railway and the riverside. It covers 40 acres, and has a depth of 4 feet. Upon its surface boating and yachting can be indulged in without the risk attending these exercises on the open sea. The lake is open to bathers all day, a great boon to many visitors, as at low water the sea is half a mile from the promenade. The ground around the lake is laid out as a pleasure garden. There are bowling-greens, to which visitors are admitted, a water-chute, scenic, figure of eight and miniature railways, and other side-shows. Firework displays are also given here.

As Rhyl is of quite modern growth there are no noble piles with historical associations or examples of ancient architecture. The town, however, is by no means destitute of notable buildings. Included among these is—

St. Thomas's Church,

in Russell Road, not far from Trinity Church. It is a fine building, in the Early English style, with accommodation for about 1,000 persons. The tower, 90 feet high, is surmounted by a spire, and possesses a peal of eight bells. The church was designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, and was erected mainly through the exertions of the Venerable Archdeacon Morgan, the first Vicar of Rhyl.

At the junction of Queen Street and Wellington Road, and, therefore, in the centre of the town, is an important block of buildings comprising—

Town Hall, Market Halls and Free Library.

The erection of the last-named was facilitated by a gift from the late Mr. Andrew Carnegie. It includes news and magazine rooms, a splendid reference library, and a well-equipped lending library.

Another notable public building is the—

Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children,

on the Marine Drive. It is under the direct patronage of the Queen Mother, who laid the foundation-stone in 1894, being then, of course, Princess of Wales. In 1900 the ward block was opened by the Countess of Dundonald, and two years later the administrative block was opened by their Majesties, who were then the Prince and Princess of Wales. The third block, for convalescent patients, renders the Hospital one of the finest institutions of the kind in the United Kingdom. The late Duke of Westminster took a deep interest in the Hospital, and, in addition to other donations, gave to the building fund the Eclipse Stakes (£10,000), which he won with his horse "Flying Fox," a fact commemorated by the weather vane, which is a representation of a fox.

In the neighbourhood of Rhyl many—

Pleasant Walks

can be taken, The chief are as under:—

1. On the far side of the Gladstone Bridge, over the railway eastward of the station, a number of paths run in different directions, all of them much frequented, as they form agreeable walks through green fields and shady retreats. One of the most enjoyable of these walks will be found by turning into the field-path on the left-hand side after crossing the bridge, and proceeding along the railway to a stile, whence there is a path leading through the Ffrith Meadow (locally called "Lark Land") to the beach.

By following the principal path into the Dyserth Road, a longer and more picturesque walk can be had. It leads across a number of fields to a stile on the right-hand side. Thence the footpath runs through a charming district to Dyserth. The distance to the village is much shorter by this route than by the highway.

2. A beautiful ramble may be had along the beach to Prestatyn, about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles eastward. The return can be made by train, or through the mining district of Meliden, the road through which commands charming views of the surrounding mountains.

3. Crossing the Vale Road Bridge, which is in a line with High Street, and taking the third turning on the right into Victoria Road, we reach a stile on the left. Thence a foot-

path will conduct us across the country, either through fields or rural lanes.

4. By crossing the railway near the Marine Lake one may enjoy a charming walk along the "Cob" direct to Rhuddlan Castle.

5. By going over the Foryd Bridge (*toll, 1d.*) we have before us a walk to Towyn Church, Pensarn, Abergele, Gwrych Castle, etc.

EXCURSIONS FROM RHYL.

Few popular resorts rival Rhyl in the variety, number and quality of possible excursions.

Many places of interest in the vicinity of Rhyl are on or near the railway. These, and more distant points along the coast and among the hills, are brought within the compass of a not too tiring day. Excursion motor-cars leave Rhyl daily. The town, in fact, possesses one of the finest "fleets" of such vehicles in the kingdom. Nearly twenty distinct drives are on the programme of excursions by motors, starting from the town, including trips to Snowdon, Barmouth and Llangollen. Some of the excursions described in other sections of this Guide can also be conveniently joined by visitors at Rhyl.

In the pages immediately following are given particulars of places on excursion routes around Rhyl, while the index will guide the reader to information respecting those places which, like Conway, Llandudno, Colwyn Bay, Old Colwyn, Bettws-y-Coed and the summit of Snowdon, are easily accessible from Rhyl, but are either more closely connected with other centres or are themselves important resorts.

Several of the places included in the organized excursions from Rhyl, or which are independently visited, are in—

The Vale of Clwyd,

which has already been referred to. Approaching its interesting spots from Rhyl, we come first to—

RHUDDLAN,

a small town on the Clwyd, 3 miles from Rhyl by rail or road, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles by a path striking across the fields. Its **Bridge** appears to have been either built or repaired in 1595 as the abutment of one of the arches bears the arms of the Bishop of St. Asaph at that time. Another ancient structure, known as the **Old Parliament House**, is in High Street. Upon it is inscribed :—

"This fragment is the remains of the building where King Edward the First held his Parliament, A.D. 1283, in which was passed the Statute of Rhuddlan, securing to the Principality of Wales its judicial rights and independence."

The statute was really a code of laws assimilating the Welsh laws with the laws of England.

Passing round this house we soon reach the ivy-clad ruins of—

Rhuddlan Castle.

Admission, 2d.; apply at the cottage opposite the entrance.

It is constructed of native red sandstone, and is a rectangular building with a tower at each angle and two at the entrance gates. The Castle was founded early in the eleventh century by the Prince of North Wales, who made it his principal residence. It was taken and burnt in 1063 by Harold, the "Last of the Saxons." It was rebuilt by the Welsh, but, before the end of the eleventh century, fell into the possession of Robert of Rhuddlan, nephew of the Earl of Chester, by whom, at the command of William the Conqueror, it was greatly strengthened. More than half a century later it was retaken by the Welsh, and was alternately in the hands of the Welsh and of the English, until it was finally captured by Edward I, by whom it was rebuilt in 1277.

In Rhuddlan Castle it was that Edward succeeded in inducing the Welsh to acknowledge his infant son, born at Carnarvon, as Prince of Wales. The King's offer to the Welsh chieftains, to give them a prince born amongst them, who had never spoken a word of English and whose life had been irreproachable, is well known, as well as the Welshmen's acceptance of the offer in ignorance of its hidden meaning. The Castle was the birthplace of Edward's second child, the Princess Eleanor. In 1399 Richard II dined in the Castle, on his way to Flint, where Henry, Duke of Lancaster, by whom he was deposed, awaited him. During the Civil War the stronghold was garrisoned for the King, and, on being captured by a Parliamentary force, was dismantled.

Rhuddlan Marsh, which lies between Rhyl and Rhuddlan, was the scene in 795 of the utter defeat of the Welsh by the Saxon forces under Offa, King of Mercia. Such of the Welsh as escaped the sword were drowned by the returning tide, while the prisoners were put to cruel deaths, without regard to age or sex. In commemoration of this tragic event was composed the plaintive Welsh air of "Morfa Rhuddlan," which is supposed to express the weeping and wailing of the bereaved women.

In close proximity to the Castle, and believed by many to be connected with it by a subterranean passage, is the **Old Banquet House**. Also near the Castle, and reached by a short walk along the river bank, is **Abbot's Hill** (known locally as *Tut Hill*), which commands a panoramic view of the surrounding country. It is said to be the site of an ancient stronghold. A quarter of a mile south-east is **Abbey or Plas-Newydd Farm**, on the site of an ancient Priory of Dominican friars. Remains of the Abbey form part of the outbuildings. On one of the walls is the figure of a knight of the thirteenth century.

Across the fields there can be seen from the farm a house which the Ordnance map calls *Spital* (an abbreviation of hospital). It was probably a house of the Knights Templars. It is now known as *Spital Cottage*, a modern hall, a hundred yards distant, having taken Spital as its name. Half a mile south, on rising ground by the roadside, is the stump of an ancient cross called **Crugyn Cross**.

Rhuddlan is the most convenient station from which to visit—

Bodelwyddan Marble Church,

the elegant spire of which, 202 feet high, forms a landmark for miles around. The Church is three miles south-west of Rhuddlan, and six miles by the direct road from Rhyl. It is a magnificent edifice, erected in 1856-60, at a cost of £60,000, defrayed by the Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke, as a memorial of her husband. It now contains a window to her own memory. The Church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and occupies a picturesque site in the vicinity of Bodelwyddan Hall.

The material of the main portion of the fabric is hard limestone, quarried in the locality and rough or dressed according to position. It has much the same appearance as marble, and is apparently as unsullied as when fresh from the hands of the workers. The interior of the **Nave** is faced with Talacre cream-coloured stone, and in no part of the building is there any plastering. The nave piers have clustered shafts of Belgian red marble, while the capitals, richly carved with the passion flower and oak and ivy leaves, are in native stones, except the abacus, which is of Belgian red marble. There are also shafts of this marble in the spandrels above the piers. Each of the corbels on which these shafts

rest is foliated, and exhibits a coronet with one of the letters of the name of Lord Willoughby de Broke. The roof is an open timber one.

The details in the **Chancel** are richer than those of the nave. Ogee crocketed canopies, rising from shafts and corbels, and projecting to form niches, run along the three sides. Alabaster, varied in tint, is used for the backs of the niches at the sides, Languedoc marble for shafts, and picked white alabaster for the capitals and corbels, the bases being Purbeck marble. The canopies here are of Caen stone, while those of the reredos are of alabaster. The chancel ceiling is formed into square panels by moulded ribs, with rosettes and bosses at the intersections.

The pavement of the church is composed of Irish black and rouge-royal marble polished, and Portland stone rubbed. The steps to the sanctuary, the chancel vestry, and the private entrance to the chancel are of polished Sicilian marble.

The **Windows** are very well designed. The most interesting are the "Lily window" in the chancel, a memorial of the founder of the church; the window over the font, in memory of the mother of the children sculptured below; and that on the south side of the west end, in memory of the wife of the owner of the estate, containing, among other figures, portraits of herself and of her second son.

The **Font** is a block of Carrara marble that has been carved into the form of two girls holding a shell. The sculptor's models were nieces of Lady Willoughby, and the figures are said to be excellent likenesses. It may interest readers to learn that the brother of these ladies was Vicar of the parish for twenty-two years, and in 1899 was made Bishop of Bangor. Other noteworthy objects are the pulpit, a splendid specimen of oak carving by Earp; the lectern, which represents a huge pinnacle of rock surmounted by an eagle; and, in the vestry, a bust of Lady Willoughby de Broke. The best view of the interior as a whole is obtained from the organ loft.

Bodelwyddan Hall is the seat of the Williams family, founded by the "apostate" William Williams of the seventeenth century. It will be remembered that he was converted by self-interest from a leading demagogue into a champion of the royal prerogative, and, as Solicitor-General, conducted the historic prosecution of the Seven Bishops, for which he was rewarded with a baronetcy.

The public are not admitted either to the Hall or its grounds, where a very fine Military Hospital (attached to the neighbouring Kinmel Camp) is situated,



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RHUDDLAN CASTLE.

[Reigate.]



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BODELWYDDAN MARBLE CHURCH.

On the eastern side of the lower part of the Vale of Clwyd is—

DYSERTH,

some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Rhuddlan, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Rhyl, *via* Gladstone Bridge, and connected with Prestatyn, 3 miles, by a light railway on which a motor car runs. It is romantically situated, as its name signifies, on a “very steep” declivity commanding an extensive view.

The **Church**, which is quite ancient, contains an eighth century cross, formerly in the churchyard, the pedestal of a cross which apparently belonged to the eleventh century, and a fine “Jesse” window, one of the many traditional monastic relics found in Welsh churches, it being said to be part of the spoil of Basingwerk Abbey. Unfortunately, the lower panels, on which the patriarch was represented in a recumbent position, disappeared many years ago. In the churchyard are curious arched tombstones and old yew-trees.

Near the centre of the village is a **Waterfall**, formed by a stream from *Ffynnon Asaph*, or St. Asaph’s Well, in the adjoining parish of Cwm. It leaps down the face of a limestone rock 40 feet in height. In its descent it is broken into picturesque clouds of spray. The spring is only second in volume of flow to the great spring of St. Winefride at Holywell. The amount of water it discharges is about seven tons per minute. In former times the spring was in great repute for its sanctity, and supposed healing properties, and was therefore the object of pilgrimages.

On a rocky promontory about half a mile from the village are a few fragments of **Dyserth Castle**, which formerly bore names signifying “The Fort of the Sting or Wasp,” “The Castle of the Forgotten Lane,” and “The Castle on the Rock.” The site was occupied by a British stronghold, which was supplanted early in the twelfth century by a Norman fortress, erected as an outpost to Rhuddlan Castle. It was rebuilt by Henry III in 1241, and about twenty years later was besieged and taken in five weeks by Llewelyn-ap-Gryffydd, and was then razed to the ground. The Castle was inaccessible on two sides, on account of the precipitous face of the rock, and on another side the approach was very steep. From the Castle grounds there is a wide and delightful prospect. At the foot of the north side of the rock is the **Talargoch Leadmine**, which has been worked practically without cessation from the time of the Roman occupation until recent years. The excavations are of enormous extent. During the construction of the Dyserth railway, numbers of Roman coins were found.

In a field adjoining the Castle on the south, are the remains of a **Manor House** of the fifteenth century, similar in shape and size to Manor Houses in many parts of Ireland, but rare in Wales.

Proceeding up the Vale of Clwyd, we come to the village-city of—

ST. ASAPH,

in Flintshire, some $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road and 6 miles by rail from Rhyl. It is the smallest of cities, having a population of only 2,000. It occupies a slight eminence between the rivers Clwyd and Elwy, and from the church built on the latter derives its Welsh name of Llanelwy, “the church on the Elwy.”

The city claims great antiquity in ecclesiastical history, its origin being due to Kentigern, better known as St. Mungo, Bishop of Glasgow and Primate of Scotland, who, having been driven from his see by persecution, fled for refuge to Wales and on the pleasant site of St. Asaph built a monastery and a church about the year 560. Being recalled to his charge in his native country on the cessation of the persecution, he nominated a pious scholar, called Asa or Asaph, as his successor, after whom both the church and the place came to be named. Under Asaph, the monastic church became the cathedral of the diocese.

The Cathedral.

Services.—*Sundays*—8.15, 11, 12.15, 3.30 and 6.15.

Weekdays—8.15 and 3.15.

Of the earliest building, or of those by which it was successively replaced during the first seven centuries of the history of the diocese, there are no remains, for, as was customary in those days, the first edifice was of wood, as were probably others which took its place. The oldest portions of the Cathedral are a doorway and other parts of the chancel. They are remnants of the Norman Church, which was burnt to the ground by an English force during the invasion of Wales by Edward I. The work of rebuilding was undertaken by Bishop Anian II, who held the see from 1268 to 1293. In 1402 the cathedral was burnt by Owen Glendower in retaliation for the sentence of deposition pronounced by the Bishop against his sovereign, Richard II. It lay in ruins until 1482, when it was rebuilt under Bishop Redman. The next great event in its history was its restoration, 1870-80, from designs by Sir Gilbert Scott, the beautiful reredos, the Bishop's throne and the pulpit being then added.

The Cathedral is the smallest in England and Wales. Its principal dimensions are ; extreme length, 182 feet ; breadth of nave and aisles, 68 feet ; length of transepts from north to south, 108 feet ; height of central tower, 100 feet. It is a plain cruciform structure, chiefly in the Decorated style, but with Early English windows in the chancel. The principal feature of the exterior is the low square **Tower**. This is entered from the North Transept, and should be ascended for the sake of the view it affords.

In the interior, the visitor should not fail to notice the **Choir Stalls**, which, by the way, are under the tower. They are specimens of the Perpendicular style, and the oldest portions are the work of Bishop Redman. The **East Window**, an example of the Decorated style, is filled with glass on which are represented scenes from the life of our Lord. It is a memorial of the celebrated Bishop Carey and Mrs. Carey. The middle window on the north, eastward of the choir stalls, contains subjects suggested by the songs of Miriam and Deborah, and is a *Memorial of Mrs. Hemans*, the poetess, who is commemorated also by a tablet in the south aisle of the nave. Mrs. Hemans spent many years in the vicinity of the city. She is not buried in the cathedral, but in Dublin, the place of her death in 1835.

In the **South Transept** are two monuments worthy of notice—one being to Dean Shipley (d. 1825), the father-in-law of Bishop Heber, and the other to a Bishop, now supposed to be Anian II, the rebuilder of the Cathedral after its destruction by the soldiers of Edward I. This transept, which serves as the **Chapter House**, contains also the **Library**, in which are not a few objects of interest, including one of the oldest of hornbooks ; a copy of the Petition of the Seven Bishops to James II (the Bishop of St. Asaph was one of the signatories) ; the earliest edition of the New Testament in Welsh (1567) ; a "Breeches" Bible ; a "Vinegar" Bible ; Walton's Polyglot Bible ; a sealed Prayer Book (1662) ; a letter of Charles I to the Dean and Chapter ; a map of Flintshire dated 1610 (Rhyl is not marked upon it) ; a small bronze figure of a horse taken out of a grave at Gwaenysgor ; wooden tongs with which dogs were removed from the church ; Dick of Aberdaron's manuscript Lexicon of the Welsh, Greek, and Hebrew languages, and a volume that belonged to Roger Ascham, tutor and Latin secretary to Queen Elizabeth.

The *Breeches Bible*, published in 1579, is so called because Genesis iii. 7 is rendered: "The eyes of them bothe were opened . . . and they sewed figge-trees leaves together, and made themselves breeches."

In the same version there is also a curious rendering of Judges

ix. 53, where it is said of Abimelech that a certain woman cast a piece of millstone upon his head and brake his "brain-pan."

The *Vinegar Bible* was printed at the Clarendon Press in 1717, and owes its name to the heading to Luke xx. being given as the Parable of the Vinegar (instead of Vineyard).

In the **North Transept** is a monument to Bishop Luxmore, who died in 1830, and to his two sons, the Dean and the Canon.

In front of the Cathedral stands a handsome **Monument**, dating from the tercentenary commemoration of the translation of the Bible into Welsh by Dr. Morgan, who became Bishop of St. Asaph in 1601. It is an "Eleanor Cross," 30 feet high, with eight figures upon it, the chief being that of Bishop Morgan. The others represent scholars who assisted him. Against the west door of the Cathedral is the tomb of *Bishop Barrow*, with an inscription (a copy of a portion of the original) containing a request for the prayers of passers-by. On account of this request the plate bearing the original inscription was removed that it might be used as evidence in an ecclesiastical lawsuit, and it was never returned.

To the west of the Cathedral is the Episcopal Palace. The Deanery is about a quarter of a mile distant, on the west bank of the Elwy.

The **Parish Church**, dedicated to SS. Asaph and Kentigern, stands at the bottom of High Street. It is supposed to have been erected about 1524, and was restored in 1872. In the south-west corner of the churchyard, near the road, is a stone with a Welsh inscription, marking the grave of the eccentric person named Richard Robert Jones, who became better known as **Dick of Aberdaron**, the village of Aberdaron, on the south coast of Carnarvonshire, being his birthplace. He acquired thirteen or fourteen languages, but could make no profitable use of them. He was always in great poverty, and used to parade the streets of Liverpool extremely dirty and ragged, with some mutilated books under his arm. He was born in 1788, and died at St. Asaph in 1845.

St. Asaph is an angling centre. The best waters are preserved by the *Clwyd and Elwy Fishing Association*.

About half a mile from the railway station is the house called *Rhyllon*, where **Mrs. Hemans** lived with her mother. To reach it from St. Asaph, pass under the railway near the station, cross a river, pass a turning on the left, and presently reach a long drive on the left leading up to the house. Mrs. Hemans resided also at "*Bronwylfa*," between "*Rhyllon*" and St. Asaph, but that house has been pulled down, and another bearing the same name has been reared upon a neighbouring site.

A short two miles up the valley from St. Asaph is **Llanerch**

Deer Park, around which motors pass on certain drives. Eastward of it are Tremeirchion and Caerwys, both notable places on coach routes.

Near **Tremeirchion Church** is a house called *Brynabella*, built by Mrs. Piozzi, better known as Mrs. Thrale, the friend of Dr. Johnson. She was buried in the churchyard here, in 1821, and there is a tablet to her memory in the Church.

On the road leading north along the hillside, at a mile from the village, is **St. Beuno's College**, belonging to the Jesuits, and containing one of the finest libraries in North Wales. It treasures also an ancient effigy, a churchyard cross, and a bell which, in accordance with an old Welsh custom, was formerly rung before the coffin on its way to burial.

Caerwys, though now an insignificant place, was originally the site of a Roman station. Near it are beautiful woods, through which excursionists usually walk when approaching Caerwys by way of the ancient village of **Bodfari**, which stands nearer the river, and also farther south.

On coach-routes on the opposite side of the Clwyd are the village of Trefnant and the Cefn Caves.

Trefnant, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of St. Asaph, is notable for a handsome memorial church in the Decorated style, erected in 1855. The village has also a flourishing Welsh toy industry.

The **Cefn Caves** are approached by terraced and zig-zag paths up the face of the cliffs, and are open to visitors by licensed vehicles on *Tuesdays and Saturdays*, from 12 to 6 (*Fee 3d.*). There is nothing to see, and the caves are of interest only on account of what was found in them. Their contents included articles left by primitive man, and bones of the bear, bison, reindeer, hyaena and other animals not now existing in the British Isles.

A full description of the caves is given by Sir H. Boyd Dawkins in his *Cave Hunting*. As he says, "It is evident from the presence of numerous bones gnawed by hyaenas, that the valleys of the Clwyd and Elwy were favourite haunts of that animal in the pleistocene age"—the period in which the accumulations of clays, sands, gravel and boulder stones were formed, while the animals then living were mostly those of existing species.

But though the caves may be of little interest, the view from their vicinity is charming.

North Wales (d)

Forming the object of a delightful walk is **St. Mary's Well**, or Ffynnon Fair, in a field by the side of the Elwy, at a spot about two miles from St. Asaph Cathedral and less than a mile below the Cefn Caves. In olden days the well was accounted holy, and was used for baptismal purposes. It was also at one time noted for the clandestine marriages performed in the chapel above. This chapel was very like that of St. Winefride at Holywell. Only the main walls are now standing, but the stonework of the well is still perfect.

By motor or by rail many visitors at Rhyl pay a visit to—

DENBIGH.

Denbigh is an important market town in a pleasant situation on the west side of the Vale of Clwyd, some 11 miles from Rhyl by rail and 12 miles by road. To lovers of historic sites, it is of great interest, and it is equally delightful to those who enjoy fine scenery, for the surroundings are of great rural beauty. The town is attractive also to anglers, being in the centre of good fishing in the Clwyd ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles) and the Elwy ($4\frac{1}{2}$ miles). The charges for trout fishing for the season are 15s. Anglers' Association, and 4s. 6d. Fisheries' Board; for salmon fishing, 20s. Anglers' Association and 20s. Fisheries Board.

Visitors who arrive by rail bear to the left on leaving the station, and then ascend the long steep street that leads to the principal part of the town, and to the remains of the ancient Castle, the chief object of interest.

On the way attention is attracted by a lofty **Monument** on the left. It dates from 1876, and is in honour of Evan Pierce, M.D., five times Mayor of Denbigh, and a great benefactor to the town. |

When, in the course of his contest with Edward I, Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, had been surprised and slain near Builth, his brother David regarded himself as the sovereign of the Welsh, and summoned the chieftains to a consultation at Denbigh, at that time a small hill fortress. It was resolved to continue the war, but the capture of David and the complete subjugation of the Welsh soon followed. Then Denbigh was granted by King Edward to the Earl of Lincoln, who surrounded the town with a wall, and replaced the Welsh fortress by the Castle now in ruins. When complete, the Castle was an extensive and superb structure, largely formed

by grouting—that is, two parallel walls were built, and the space between them was filled with a mixture of stones and hot mortar. When the mass had become thoroughly dry, it was like a solid rock.

After the death of the Earl of Lincoln, the Castle became the possession of a succession of courtiers, including Hugh de Spencer, one of the unworthy favourites of Edward II; Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, the paramour of Edward II's consort, Queen Isabella; and Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, who for a time stood highest in the favour of Queen Elizabeth.

Charles I took refuge in the Castle after his retreat from Chester. From its battlements he watched the advance of a hostile force. A small band of volunteers, including Captain Wynne of Ystrad, went forth against the foe, and, meeting them between the Castle and Whitchurch, at a place since called Captain Bridge, checked the progress of the host while the King made his escape, although only soon to become the prisoner of the Scots.

The gallant Captain was among those who were mortally wounded, and he died within the Castle three days later. Permission to bear his body through the enemy's lines, that it might be buried with his ancestors at Llanrhaiadr, was refused; but the Parliamentarians offered to receive the coffin and to inter it in the desired spot. The offer was accepted, and in the strange way which it provided, the funeral took place, as was subsequently recorded on his tombstone, which still stands at the east end of Llanrhaiadr churchyard.

Denbigh Castle was the last Welsh fortress to hold out for Charles I. After a siege lasting nearly nine months it surrendered on honourable terms. It was then dismantled, After the Restoration of the monarchy it was blown up with gunpowder, by order of Charles II.

Denbigh Castle.

More than one side street leads from the main thoroughfare to the ruins. By Tower Hill, the **Burgess Tower** and **North Gateway** is approached. It consists of a circular tower rising from a square base, and is considered the finest example of the kind in Wales. Through it the way runs to the **Great Gateway**, the finest portion of the remains.

On entering the precincts of the Castle, the eye lights on **St. Hilary's Church**, an ancient edifice no longer used. Having been deserted on account of its inconvenient size, it has become dilapidated. Its condition will appear less lamentable

when the authorities have given effect to the proposal to dismantle the building, and preserve it as a ruin.

A few yards north-east of St. Hilary's, and parallel to it, is a portion of a building commonly called **Leicester's Church**. It dates from 1579 and consists mainly of a long wall, pierced for the windows. The Earl, it is said, intended the building for a Cathedral, in place of St. Asaph's, but was unable to complete it owing to the Earl of Essex, when on his way to Ireland, borrowing the money raised for the work and neglecting to return it.

The courtyard of the Castle is grass-covered and is used as a public recreation ground. There is a gymnasium for the use of children, while a nominal sum puts players in temporary possession of a tennis court, bowling-green or croquet lawn. There are patches of flowering plants and shrubs, and the whole place is admirably kept.

At the foot of the walls on one side is the **Royal Bowling Green**, now in the occupation of a private club.

Near the entrance to the Castle is a small **Museum**. The contents include Roman pottery, ancient tiles, cannon balls, coins, swords, a case of geological specimens, pictures, an ancient map of Denbigh, the cross-bow of Captain Wynne of Ystrad, whose manner of death and burial is recorded on the previous page, and a model of the birthplace of the famous African traveller, **Sir H. M. Stanley** (originally John Henry Rowlands).

The model represents a lowly cottage which stood close under the Castle wall, just to the right of the main entrance. The site is now the *Stanley Bowling Green* (open to visitors). But there is still standing under the Castle wall, a stone's throw to the left of the great gateway, the cottage in which Stanley lived, nursed by the wife of the parish clerk, from the time he was a fortnight old until he was three years of age, when the clerk carried him to the workhouse at St. Asaph, being unable to keep him any longer for the pittance received—eighteenpence a week, paid mostly in kind.

The decaying walls of the Castle should be ascended for the sake of the beautiful and extensive prospect they command. The high ground on which Denbigh stands is an isolated eminence. Around it is a wide tract of comparatively level country, bordered on all sides by hills, while in every direction are spots of special interest.



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ST. ASAPH CATHEDRAL.



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DENBIGH CASTLE.

The View from Denbigh Castle.

Towards the north-east is **Plas Clough**, more than three centuries ago the residence of Sir Richard Clough, who assisted Sir Thomas Gresham to establish the Royal Exchange. In a dark wood is *Brynbellla*, where Mrs. Thrale sometime lived and was visited by Dr. Johnson. A little to the left of it are Tremeirchion and St. Beuno's College, while lower down the Vale and almost due north is *Bronwylfa*, marking the site of the house of the same name that was, for a time, the home of Mrs. Hemans. To the north-east also, from a bridge on the battlements, may be seen, in the lower part of the town, the ruins of an **Abbey** of White Friars founded in the reign of Henry III, and damaged by fire in the first year of this century. A little more eastward, and nearly a mile and a half distant as the crow flies, is the **Old Parish Church** of Denbigh, dedicated to St. Marcella. Probably it belonged to the White Friars, and that may be the reason why it is commonly called *Eglwys Wen*, or the White Church. It contains a monumental brass representing Richard, the father of the famous Sir Hugh Myddelton, with Jane, his wife, kneeling at an altar with their nine sons and seven daughters behind them. It is also the burial-place of other worthies, including Humphrey Llwyd, the Welsh historian, and Thomas Edwards, the writer of witty dramatic "Interludes." Twm o'r Nant (Tom of the Dingle), the latter generally called himself, because he was born in a dingle at Pen Porchell, some 4 miles westward of Denbigh.

At a distance of 7 or 8 miles rises **Moel Vamagh** or **Famau**, distinguished by the ruins of a lofty pyramidal mass of masonry erected to celebrate the Jubilee of George III, and overthrown by a storm in 1862. It is the loftiest point of the Clwydian range of hills, extending from Rhyl to Ruthin, its elevation being 1,823 feet.

"Moel, a bald hill. Vamagh, maternal or motherly. Moe Vamagh, the Mother Moel.

"'Just so, sir,' said the beggar; . . . 'Moel Vamagh is the Mother Moel, and is called so because it is the highest of all the Moels.'"—George Borrow, in *Wild Wales*.

Northwards the Irish Sea is visible on a clear day. In the opposite direction the North Wales Lunatic Asylum is in the foreground, and on the far-distant horizon is the Berwyn range.

The south-western prospect from Denbigh Castle includes a white cottage, known as **Galeh Hill**, notable as the birth-place of Sir Hugh Myddelton, the great engineer who supplied London with water by means of the New River, which he

formed, with King James I as financial partner. In the dingle beyond, called *Dolhyfryd* (beautiful meadows), is a cottage having over its doorway lines attributed to Dr. Johnson, who visited the dwelling during his tour in Wales in 1774, but if the date below them is correct, it is evident either that Johnson is not the author, or that they were suggested by some other place. They run:—

“Around this homely cot this humble shed
If health if competence and virtue tread
Though no proud Column grace the gaudy door
Where sculptur'd elegance parades it o'er,
Nor pomp without nor pageantry within
Nor splendid show nor ornament is seen
The swain shall look with pity on the great
Nor barter quiet for a king's estate.
1768.”

Dr. Johnson was entertained at **Gwaenynog**, hard by, then the seat of the Myddeltons, and he rambled in the neighbouring fields and woods, in which, as he records in his diary, he “delighted to stand and recite verses.”

To commemorate his visits, Mr. Myddelton set up a monument in a field beyond the second of the cottages alluded to above, **Johnson's Cottage** as it is called. The memorial consists in part of a Grecian urn with the following inscription:—

“This spot was often dignified by the presence of Samuel Johnson, LL.D., whose moral writings, exactly conformable to the precepts of Christianity, gave ardour to Virtue and confidence to Truth.”

It will be remembered that the Doctor did not appreciate the compliment. “Mr. Myddelton's intention,” he wrote to Mrs. Thrale, “looks like an intention to bury me alive. I would as willingly see my friend, however benevolent and hospitable, quietly inurned. Let him think, for the present, of some more acceptable memorial.”

In the corner of the wood, half a mile or more to the left of Gwaenynog, is **Segrwyd Hall**, the birthplace of Dr. Dolben, Bishop of Bangor in the reign of Elizabeth. In the hollow between more distant hills is the beautifully situated little village of **Nantglyn** (4 miles from Denbigh), the birthplace of the doctor who went with Captain Cook on his first voyage round the world, and the burial-place of Dr. Owen Pughe, the grammarian.

By turning to the right on leaving the great gateway of Denbigh Castle, then crossing a stile and following a path which soon leads across a carriage drive, one comes to the **Goblin Tower**, said to be so called because the only son of the builder of the Castle fell into it and was killed. Opposite it is an ancient bath.

A new **Town Hall** has been erected and the Market Place greatly improved.

Llanrhaidr,

one of several villages bearing a name which appears generic in Wales (the full name of this one being Llanrhaidr-yn-Cinmerch), is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Denbigh and a mile from Llanrhaidr station. The principal objects of interest are the fine Jesse window and the chancel roof of its **Church**. The window is of the fifteenth century. There is a tradition that it was purchased with the votive offerings of pilgrims to the Holy Well, Ffynnon St. Dyfnog, near the church. The window was found buried in the churchyard in a large oak chest, which is still preserved in the church. The well was in great repute for the cure of skin diseases.

Farther up the Vale, in the fairest of all its fair spots, its centre, is the ancient and quaint little town of—

RUTHIN,

situated on the banks of the river Clwyd, 18 miles from Rhyl by rail, and 20 by road.

The heart of the town is **St. Peter's Square**, used as a market place on Mondays and for fairs on the first Tuesday in the month. A clock tower and fountain in the middle were erected in 1883 in honour of Mr. Joseph Peers, for fifty years Clerk of the Peace for the county. The business premises on the south side were formerly the **Courthouse** and prison, erected in 1404, and furnished with a gallows, the whole of which has not even yet been removed, the end of a beam belonging to it being visible a couple of feet to the right of the westernmost dormer window, under the eaves. The last of the executions here, however, took place in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the victim being a Jesuit priest.

On the east side of the Square a building next to the Castle Hotel attracts attention by its singular architecture, there being on its roof dormer windows at three elevations. It dates from the fourteenth century, and was formerly the Myddelton Arms. On the north side of the Square fine iron gates are at the entrance to the churchyard, and adjoin the chief **Post Office**, a picturesque modern building on the site of a nunnery which was burnt down in recent years, while in use as a grocer's shop.

On the west side of the Square, at its junction with Clwyd Street, is a fine old timbered structure, occupied by a chemist and druggist, and known as **Exmewe House**. It and the

adjacent "Beehive" house and shop were originally Exmewe Hall, built in 1500 by Thomas Exmewe, a wealthy London merchant who, a few years later, became Lord Mayor of London. Its second tenant was Edward Goodman, a mercer, whose son Gabriel, born in it, became Dean of Westminster and a great benefactor to his native town. The dean is reputed to have been the translator of the First Epistle to the Corinthians, in the authorized version of the Bible. Along the west side of the house is a raised path, having at its north-eastern corner a rough block of limestone called **Maen Huail** (Huail's stone) on which King Arthur is said to have beheaded his rival in a love intrigue, Huail, brother of Gildas the historian.

Connecting with the Square at its south-western angle is **Castle Street**, leading to the Castle Lodge, and noted for its houses of ancient date. No. 1 was the birthplace, in 1560, of Dr. Parry, Bishop of St. Asaph, and translator of the Bible into Welsh, 1620, his version being that which is in use at the present day. The quaintest house, known as **Nantelwyd**, has been the Judges' Lodgings for nearly a century. It has a gabled portico, is internally adorned with old oak and cedar carvings and ancient wainscoting, and the hall has an antique gallery.

From Castle Street one may pass by way of Record Street into **Well Street**, which, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, contained the winter residences of the gentry holding estates in the vicinity of the town. It is the site of the *Wynnstay Arms Hotel*, known in other days as the Cross Foxes, and familiar to readers of *Wild Wales* as the inn where Borrow dined with his guide, John Jones, the poor weaver, who then for the first time tasted duck. No. 2, Well Street (the old Post Office) is the oldest house in the town. It was the only house that escaped destruction during Owen Glendower's investment of the town in 1400.

Ruthin Castle.

Admission.—The grounds and ruins are open daily. Fee 3d. In the absence of the family, the lower rooms of the modern Castle are shown, on application to the housekeeper, who should be suitably remunerated.

The ancient Castle was founded, upon the site of an earlier stronghold, by King Edward I in 1281, and was granted by him to Reginald de Grey, Justiciar of Chester, in whose family it remained until the end of the fifteenth century. Its history has been comparatively uneventful. In the year 1400 it was unsuccessfully assailed by Owen Glendower, who, pursuing an old quarrel with Lord de Grey, suddenly attacked Ruthin, sacked the town and fired it. During the Civil War, the Castle was held for Charles I,

but after a three months' siege in 1646 it was taken by the Parliamentarians, under General Mitton, and was soon afterwards demolished. It remained a ruin for 180 years, and then its restoration was begun. On a portion of the site a castellated residence was erected in perfect harmony with the ancient work, the local red sandstone being used for the new building, as it had been for the old. The same desire to blend the new and the old operated in the arrangement of the grounds, which are so interwoven with the fragments of towers and walls that a scene of exceeding loveliness and charm has been created.

Ruthin Castle was the seat of the late Colonel Cornwallis West, into whose possession it came through his descent, in the female line, from Sir Hugh Myddelton, of New River fame.

Ruthin Church.

Open daily 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Ruthin Church was originally a chapel-of-ease under the Mother Church of Llanrhydd. It is dedicated to St. Peter, and was built and endowed in 1310 by John, son of Reginald de Grey, who also provided a suitable dwelling-place for seven priests, who were to serve the church and live in community upon its revenues. The original building consisted of two churches, side by side, one for the parishioners, the other for the monastic priests. For this reason it was and still is frequently called "the Collegiate and Parochial Church of St. Peter." The College being dissolved at the Reformation, the collegiate church fell into decay and finally was almost completely demolished. The present **North Aisle** was the nave of the parochial church. The position of its altar is shown by traces of a piscina at the junction of the west wall with an arch. The **South Aisle** was added in the early part of the eighteenth century. The church is famed for the beautiful **Oak Roof** of its north aisle, presented by Henry VII. It is divided into about 500 panels, bearing carved devices, pious mottoes and sacred figures, no two of the ornaments being alike. In a recess in the north wall of the chancel is a bust of Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster. On the wall of the north aisle is a portrait brass of his father Edward Goodman (d. 1560), and there is also one of the Dean's father and mother, with their five sons and three daughters. Near the western end of the wall is a curious tablet, prepared

by the man it commemorates, a Castle servant who died in 1874. It is of bog oak, inlaid with bone, and exhibits in the latter material a picture of the church. The tower contains eight bells. Upon one the curfew is still tolled.

North of the church are the **Cloisters**, now the residence of the incumbent, styled the Warden, owing to Dr. Goodman refounding the Wardenship in connection with **Christ's Hospital**, another of his foundations. Its buildings consist of twelve cottages on the east side of the churchyard.

The good Dean also founded a **Grammar School**. It occupied a site northward of the church. In 1700 it was rebuilt. The premises then erected are now put to other use, a more suitable building having been provided in 1891-3 on the Mold Road. The roll of past scholars includes the names of many who became eminent in Church or State.

Other notable modern buildings in Ruthin are the **Town Hall** and the **County Offices**, both in Market Street.

Llanrhydd, about a mile eastward, has an ancient church of British origin, with many interesting features. On the north side is *Plas Llanrhydd*, the residence of Mr. Stanley J. Weyman, the well-known novelist. **Pool Park**, Lord Bagot's residence, about 2 miles west of Ruthin, contains a stone seat called the **Queen's Chair** (originally near an earthwork called the *Queen's Court*) and an ancient **Celtic monolith**, bearing Ogam characters on its edges, and a Latin inscription on one of its sides.

Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, two miles south, has a handsome Parish Church, supposed to have been built in 1403, with a Jesus Chapel built and endowed in 1619 by Rice Williams, a verger of Westminster Abbey.

On Coedmarchan, about two miles on the Corwen side of the town, is a 9-hole Golf Course. (Day, 1/6; week, 5/-; month, 10/-.)

The summit of **Moel Fammau** is five miles from Ruthin. The ascent begins two miles from the town.

Llanfair-Talhaiarn and Llangerniew.

One of the most popular half-day excursions from Rhyl is the mountain drive to **Llanfair-Talhaiarn**. It is a small straggling village five miles nearly due south of Abergele. **Llangerniew** is visited in the course of an all-day's drive from Rhyl. Both places are described in the Colwyn Bay section.

HOLYWELL AND PANTASAPH.

THESE interesting spots, situated to the south-east of Rhyl, are included in a motor drive from that town. Holywell may also be visited by rail.

On the outward journey the coaches take the coast road, and so pass **Mostyn Hall**, the seat of Lord Mostyn, in whose family it has been from time immemorial. The Hall is famous for the Welsh relics it contains. Among its treasures are a Golden Torque, which was found near Harlech Castle; a Silver Harp, once an Eisteddfod prize; a large collection of Welsh manuscripts; and a knife and fork, which the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII, was about to use, when the arrival of troopers supporting Richard III put an end to the banquet.

The motors return to Rhyl by way of **Newmarket**, a village noted for its **Gop**, or Cop, an artificial mound, or cairn, 350 feet in diameter at the base and 46 feet high. It is the largest tumulus in North Wales. In 1889 it was explored, and many skeletons and fragments of pottery belonging to the neolithic or polished stone age were taken from a cave under the mound.

In Newmarket churchyard is one of the most perfect stone crosses in Wales. A good account of it will be found in *Owen's Village Crosses of North Wales*.

Offa's Dyke, which starts near Prestatyn, passes on the east side of Newmarket.

HOLYWELL.

Access.—To Holywell Junction, on the Chester and Holyhead line of the L. & N.W. Railway, and thence by a branch line of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, opened in 1912, which runs through a picturesque valley. Fare between the Junction and the town, $1\frac{1}{2}d$. One class only.

Distances.—Chester, $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles; Rhyl, 14; London, 196.

Early Closing Day—Wednesday.

Golf.—The *Holywell Golf Club* has a nine-hole course on Penyball Mountain, 800 feet above sea-level. Charming view of the estuary of the Dee and of the Clwydian Hills. Visitors: 1s. 6d. per day; 6s. per week; 10s. per fortnight.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Newspapers.—*County Herald*, *Flintshire Observer*.

Places of Worship.—*Parish Church* (near St. Winefride's Well), *St. Winefride's* Roman Catholic Church (Well Street), *Pendref Welsh Wesleyan*, *English Congregational*, *Rehoboth Calvinistic Methodist*, *English Presbyterian*, *Bethel Baptist*.

Holywell is an ancient town deriving its name and its importance from—

The Well of St. Winefride.

The spring is the most copious in the kingdom, the volume of water varying from 2,400 gallons a minute in times of drought to 3,000 gallons a minute when the weather is wet. The water never freezes, but has a constant temperature of about 50°. From the well the water flows to the river Dee through the picturesque Greenfield valley.

According to legend, there lived in the neighbourhood, in the seventh century, a virgin of the name of Winefride, who was desired in marriage by Caradoc, Prince of Wales. His request being refused, he attempted to carry her off by force. Winefride fled, pursued by the prince, who in his rage struck off her head, which bounded down the hill to the church, and on the spot where it rested a spring of uncommon size burst forth. Winefride's uncle, St. Beuno, who was officiating in the church, replaced the severed head, and in answer to his prayers it was re-united to the body, and the virgin was restored to life.

For many generations the well has been credited with miraculous virtues, and pilgrims from all parts of the world have come to bathe in its waters. At St. Winefride's Feast in 1629 there were 150 priests present, and the total attendance exceeded 1,400 persons. Several cures having been testified to in 1894, attention was attracted to the well, and the Roman Catholics obtained a lease of it.

At a meeting of the North Wales branch of the British Medical Association in 1910, there was read a paper upon "Modern Miracles of Healing," and medical men present referred to certain cases of healing at St. Winefride's Well.

The well is at the foot of the steep hill on which the town is situated.

The basin in which the spring rises is in a crypt under—

St. Winefride's Hall,

which is believed to have been erected by Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby, the mother of Henry VII.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

[Dundee.

RUINS OF BASINGWERK ABBEY.



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[Reigate.

ST. WINEFRIDE'S WELL, AND PLUNGE BATH, HOLYWELL.



T. Wills Jones,]

DYSERTH WATERFALL.

[*Rhyl.*

The hall is used for the Welsh services of the Parish Church (*keys at one of the houses opposite*). It is of handsome proportions. Under the windows are grotesque figures and the arms of the families to which the Countess of Richmond was allied. At the upper end of the hall is a raised room with curious carved woodwork.

The Crypt

(*Admission 2d.*)

has a fine groined roof. Adjoining the basin in which the spring rises is the Little Bath. Near the steps to it is St. Beuno's Stone, or the Wishing Stone. There are also a large outer bath and swimming bath—the "Westminster."

In several places is a reddish moss (*Byssus joli thus*), which is held in great esteem by the devotees of the saint.

"The pure vermillion bloode that issued from her veines

Unto this very day the pearly gravel staines;

As erst the white and red were mixed in her cheeke.

And that one part of her might be the other like,

Her haire was turned to mosse, whose sweetness doth declare

In liveliness of youth the natural sweets she bare."

To the left of the basin is a statue of St. Winefride, and at the base of the statue is a small altar. During the season, which lasts from June to September, services are held daily in the crypt, and on Sunday evenings there is usually a procession from St. Winefride's Church to the well.

In the corners of the crypt are piles of the sticks and crutches that have been discarded by invalids.

There are two annual Feasts of St. Winefride, one on or about June 22, celebrating the decollation of the saint, the other on or about November 3, celebrating her natural death at Gwytherin, in Denbighshire, fifteen years after the miraculous event in her life.

In a field above her well is **St. Beuno's Well**. It is on private property, but access to it can be obtained.

Behind St. Winefride's Well is the **Parish Church**, a plain Norman structure.

St. Winefride's Church, belonging to the Roman Catholics is in Well Street. It is an imposing structure and has a highly decorated interior. In the vestibule is a fine marble statue of "heroic" size, of St. Winefride, who is represented in contemporary Celtic dress.

Near the church is **St. Winefride's Convent**.

In New Road is the **New St. Winefride's Hall**, used for gatherings of pilgrims and for school purposes. By it is a large bronze statue of the Sacred Heart.

On the opposite side of the road is a large **Hospice**, conducted by Sisters of Charity of St. Paul as a lodging-house for the poorer Roman Catholic pilgrims.

Other visitors will find well-appointed hotels, and apartments.

WALKS AND DRIVES.

Near Holywell are some of the loveliest spots in Wales.

A charming retreat is afforded by the **Strand Walks and Woods**, which extend from Bagillt Street nearly to the railway station, where remains of **Wat's Dyke** are visible. By descending a steep hill at the termination of the wood and then following a footpath past the Victoria Flour Mill, one is led to the ruins of **Basingwerk Abbey**, originally built about 1131.

About 3 miles south-east of the town, by the high-road, is **Halkin Castle**, formerly one of the seats of the Duke of Westminster. Near the entrance lodge is a beautiful church erected by the late Duke. The interior is most ornate. On the coast, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of Holywell, is the ancient borough of **Flint**, with the ruins of its historic castle.

In a field near Whitford, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Holywell, is the **Maen Achwynfan**—the Stone of Lamentations, one of the finest wheel crosses in the kingdom. It is probably an early Christian monument.

Westward of the town, at a distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles through the fields, is—

Pantasaph,

a small village containing numerous Roman Catholic institutions, which have clustered around a Church built by the late Earl and Countess of Denbigh and opened in 1852. The edifices comprise a Franciscan Monastery, a Convent, and an Orphanage accommodating some 500 children. Francis Thompson, the author of *The Hound of Heaven* and other famous poems, at one time lived in this village.

The **Church** contains some fine wood-carving and stained glass, and a beautiful canopied tomb with the recumbent effigy of the Earl of Denbigh, who died in 1892. At the rear of the monastery a fir-clad hill, known as **Mount Calvary**, has a winding path containing the Stations of the Cross and leading to the summit, where are a gigantic cross and the Chapel of the Sepulchre. At the foot of the hill a disused quarry has been transformed into a representation of the Grotto of Lourdes.

PRESTATYN.

Access.—The L. & N.W.R. Co. run a quick service of trains between the principal English towns and Prestatyn.

Banks.—*London Joint City and Midland ; London and Provincial ; Parr's ; Lloyds.*

Bowls.—Municipal Greens (flat and crown), 3*d.* per hour.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Golf.—An 18-hole course on the coast. Visitors, day 2*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 6*d.* Sundays and Bank Holidays) ; week, 10*s.* ; month, 25*s.* An attractive residential club house has twenty bedrooms, ladies' rooms, lounge, etc. Day 12*s.* 6*d.* ; Saturday dinner to Monday breakfast, 25*s.* ; week, 72*s.*, all including golf.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Inquiries.—For information respecting apartments, etc., application may be made to the Hon. Secretary, The Town Improvement Association. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Lighting and Water.—The town is lighted by gas. The gasworks and water-works are owned by the Urban Council.

Newspaper.—*Prestatyn Weekly.*

Places of Worship, with hours of English services :—

Parish Church—8 and 11 a.m. and 7.15 p.m.

Congregational—10.45 a.m. during August.

Presbyterian—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

St. John's English Wesleyan—10.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Trinity United Methodist—10.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

There is also a Roman Catholic Church, and there are several Nonconformist places of worship in which services in Welsh are held.

Population.—2,900.

Postal.—The Head Office is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, and from 8.30 to 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Tennis.—Municipal courts ; Day, 6*d.* ; week, 2*s.* ; month, 5*s.* ; season, 7*s.* 6*d.* (balls provided). Prestatyn Club : Day, 1*s.* ; week, 2*s.* 6*d.* ; fortnight, 3*s.* 6*d.* ; month, 5*s.* ; season, gentlemen 10*s.* 6*d.*, ladies 7*s.* 6*d.*

PRESTATYN—pretty Prestatyn, its people call it—is a rising resort nearly four miles east of Rhyl, occupying a site that certainly has much natural beauty. The town faces a straight stretch of coast, so that bracing winds from the sea blow unchecked. The beach is a wide expanse of sands, forming a safe bathing ground, and a safe and pleasant playground for children. The principal street is on a gentle mountain slope which runs almost from the seashore to the distant horizon.

A notable feature of the place consists of the bungalows and summer residences that permit of the open-air life which the climate favours, as the average annual rainfall is only about 25 inches, a remarkably low amount for the west coast, being but a trifle more than that of London. Sunshine

is recorded on about 320 of the 365 days of the year, and amounts to about 1,674 hours.

The town can also claim to be remarkably healthy, having a death rate of only about 11·5 per 1,000.

Prestatyn has few historical associations. It once possessed a Castle, which was probably built by Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, about 1015. While held by an English garrison for Henry II, it was besieged by the Welsh. At the end of three months the defenders capitulated, and the victors razed the fortress to the ground, so that it should not again form a lodgment for an enemy. The foundations may be seen in a field in the lower part of the town.

One of the charms of Prestatyn is the number of pretty country walks that can be taken from it along lanes and footpaths. The chief of these are detailed in a booklet published by the Town Improvement Association. It is possible also to walk along the seashore, or over the sand-hills to the Rhyl Promenade, which extends a considerable distance towards Prestatyn.

Prestatyn is connected with **Dyserth**, already described, by **Mountain Railway**, along which a rail motor car makes frequent trips. Excursions can be made also eastward or westward on the main line, and chars-à-bancs run daily during the season to various places of interest.

Near the village of **Gwaenysgor**, rather more than a mile south-east of Prestatyn, is a stalactite cave. It is not now open to inspection, however, owing to a fall in the roof. The font in the **Church** resembles that of Lincoln Cathedral, and is one of the best specimens of Norman work in North Wales. The chalice is Elizabethan and is inscribed, "The Cuppe of Gwaynisker." The registers date from 1538. They are the oldest in the diocese of St. Asaph.

COLWYN BAY.

Access.—By the L. & N.W.R. Colwyn Bay is midway between Chester and Holyhead and $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Llandudno.

Banks.—*London City and Midland*, Conway Road; *National Provincial*, Abergele Road; *Lloyds*, London County, Westminster, and Parr's, Station Road; *Manchester and Liverpool District*, Conway Road.

Bathing.—Safe and pleasant bathing. The beach is of firm, sloping sand. The *Colwyn Bay Swimming Club* has pavilions for ladies and gentlemen near the boats. Week, 1s.; fortnight, 1s. 6d.; three weeks, 2s.; four weeks, 2s. 6d. Season tickets: seniors, 3s.; juniors, 2s.

Boats.—Decked or Half-Decked Sailing Boats:—For first hour or part of an hour, 3s.; each half of the second hour, 1s. 6d.; every subsequent half-hour, 1s.; every quarter-hour or less, 6d.

Undecked Sailing Boats—For first hour or part of an hour, 2s. 6d.; each half of the second hour, 1s. 3d.; other periods, as above.

Rowing Boat, with one man—For first hour or part of an hour, 2s.; each half of the second hour, 1s.; every subsequent half-hour, 9d.; every quarter-hour or less, 5d.

Clubs.—*Constitutional* (billiard and reading-rooms open to visitors); *Colwyn Bay*, Conway Road, open to visitors; *Liberal*, Woodland Road.

Distances (By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham	115	Liverpool	56	Manchester	80
Chester	41	Llanberis	37	St. Asaph	17
Denbigh	22	London	220		

(By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Abergele	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Llandulas	4	Penmaenmawr . .	10
Aber Waterfalls . .	15	Llandudno	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rhuddlan Castle .	12
Conway	5	Marble Church . .	11	Trefriw	15

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Electric Tramway.—Cars every 15 minutes through Rhos-on-Sea to Llandudno, also to Old Colwyn.

Free Library.—Woodland Road.

Golf.—The 18-hole course of the Colwyn Bay Club above the Pwllcrochan Woods. Visitors: day, 2s. 6d.; week, 10s.; monthly, £1 1s. The 18-hole course of the Rhos-on-Sea Club. Visitors: day, 2s. 6d.; week, 12s. 6d.; month, £2. Each has a club-house and allows Sunday play without caddies. There is also a 9-hole course at Old Colwyn. Day, 2s.; week, 7s.; fortnight, 10s.; month, 15s. Visitors can have rooms in the Club House.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Lawn Tennis and Croquet.—Club ground in Prince's Drive. Open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on application to the groundsman.

Newspapers.—*Colwyn Bay Weekly News*; *Colwyn Bay and North Wales Pioneer*; *Halfpenny Herald*.

Places of Worship:—

St. Paul's (Parish Church), Abergele Road—8, 11.15, and 7.

St. Paul's Mission Church, Coed Pella Road—11 and 6.30.

Congregational (English)—11 and 7.

Wesleyan (English), *St. John's*, Conway Road, and Nant-y-glyn—11 and 6.30.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Brackley Avenue—Mass, 8 and 11; Evening Service, 6.

Presbyterian (English)—11 and 6.30.

Baptist (English)—11 and 7.

Ilandrillo Parish Church—Welsh, 9.30; English, 11 and 6.30.

Old Colwyn Parish Church (St. John's)—8, 11 and 7.

Bryn-y-maen Parish Church—11 a.m. and (summer only) 7.5 p.m.

Society of Friends—11 and 6.30.

Besides the above English Churches there are several Welsh Chapels.

Population.—16,791.

Post Office.—Penrhyn Road. Week-days, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays, 8.30 to 10 a.m.

Steamer.—A steamer plies in summer between Colwyn Bay (Rhos-on-Sea pier) and various towns on the coast, the Menai Strait, etc.

COLWYN BAY is a picturesque modern town, with spacious, airy streets, excellent shops, and first-class hotels and lodging-houses. A large proportion of the houses are detached or semi-detached, and throughout the town there is an abundance of trees. On the landward side the town is nearly surrounded by well-wooded hills, and another pleasant feature are the dells, or “dingles,” to give them their local name, which run down to the sea-side, and usually contain a brawling streamlet and mimic cascades.

The place may be said to date from 1866, when Lady Erskine's mansion, Pwlycrochan, was opened as a hotel.

Due attention has been paid to drainage, and there is a plentiful supply of pure water, of exceptional softness, brought from Llyn Cowlyd, nearly 1,200 feet above sea-level, far removed from every source of contamination.

The late Mr. Walter Whitehead, F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, wrote: “I have practically resided in Colwyn Bay for the last nine years, and if there is one conclusion I have arrived at it is that the town is one of the most sanitarily perfect health resorts I know of anywhere.”

The Climate,

except in the upper parts, is slightly relaxing in summer, but is remarkably mild in winter, so that the town is increasing in favour as a resort for invalids during the coldest months of the year. The average mean temperature of the six winter months is about 5° higher than that of Bournemouth. The place has a small rainfall, a splendid sunshine record and almost complete immunity from fog.

The bay after which the town is named extends from **Penmaen Head**, on the east, to **Rhos-on-Sea**, on the north-west, from which there is a slighter curve to Little Orme's Head, projecting farther north and protecting Colwyn Bay from the gales which occasionally sweep the Irish Sea. The shore, nearly three miles in length, is formed of sand, with a gradual slope ; and as the tide rises and falls gently, bathing is both safe and pleasant, and boating may be enjoyed without risk. Bounding the beach is a wide asphalted **Promenade**, extending from Old Colwyn on the east to Rhos-on-Sea on the west, a distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is furnished with seats, shelters and picturesque kiosks, and at night is brightly illuminated by electric lamps. At various points upon it the Municipal Band plays at stated times. Accompanying the Promenade is a fine carriage drive.

Near the Railway Station is the fine **Victoria Pier** (*admission 2d.*), 455 yards long. At its head popular concerts are given daily during the season. All through the season, too, there is daily rendered a programme of high-class orchestral and vocal music in the **Pavilion**, which is near the entrance to the Pier, and holds nearly 3,000 persons. On three sides is a large gallery, with tiers of seats in front and a promenade behind. There are also external balconies.

On the inland side of the railway, and running parallel with it for a long distance, is a wide thoroughfare which goes westward under the name of **Prince's Drive**, and finally unites with Conway Road, going in the same direction. Eastward of the station it is the **Victoria Avenue** and the **East Parade**. The latter terminates at the lower end of the **Dingle**, a rustic glade connecting Abergele Road, and the east end of the town generally, with the Promenade.

Running inland from the station is **Station Road**, a business thoroughfare leading to a main highway which extends westward as the **Conway Road** and eastward as the **Abergele Road**. At their meeting-point is Woodland Road, the site of the **Free Public Library**, erected as a memorial of the Coronation of King Edward VII. Towards its cost Mr. Carnegie contributed £3,785.

A few yards eastward of this, and therefore in Abergele Road, is **St. Paul's Church**, a plain structure of stone, with free sittings for 800 persons. In 1910-11 a massive tower was added at a cost of £3,000. Adjoining and belonging

to the church is a spacious lawn on which fêtes are held in the summer.

On the opposite side of the road is an English Congregational Church. Eastward are Chapels belonging to the Welsh Independents, Welsh Baptists, English Baptists, Welsh Presbyterians and the Wesleyan Methodists. The last-named have their place of worship at the end of Nant-y-Glyn Road.

Returning to the Public Library, and thence going westward along Conway Road, we reach the **Offices of the Urban District Council**. In addition to the town, the area over which the Council has authority includes Old Colwyn and Rhos, both of which are described later, and also **Mochdre**, a hamlet on the high-road to Conway, and **Bryn-y-Maen**, to which a pleasant walk can be taken, either through the Nant-y-Glyn Valley, or *viâ* the Four Crosses.

Not many yards westward of the Council Offices is **St. John's Wesleyan Church**, a fine freestone building with a tall and handsome spire, the most conspicuous in the town. In the next block of buildings is the **Roman Catholic Church of St. Joseph**. Between the two churches just named is **Pwllcrochan Avenue**, continued northward to the Promenade by Marine Road and having at its upper end the *Pwllcrochan Hotel*, formerly the residence of Sir David Erskine, Bart. Here also are—

The Pwllcrochan Woods,

which form part of the background of the town and are one of its most attractive features. Having been purchased by the District Council, they are freely open to all. They cover an area of from 40 to 50 acres and contain numerous paths, with comfortable seats so placed as to command charming outlooks. The Municipal Band plays in the woods several afternoons each week. Above the woods are the **Colwyn Bay Golf Links**, 500 feet above sea-level.

Along the lower side of the woods is the Old Highway, part of the old Chester and Holyhead stage-coach road, running westward past the **Four Crosses** to Mochdre and Conway. The Four Crosses is the meeting-place of four roads at the western end of the woods, and was the sign of an ancient inn which stood there. Of the two roads not yet mentioned, that to the right leads to Llandrillo-yn-Rhos

Colwyn Bay.

[Resgate.

OLD COLWYN AND THE BAY.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]





Photochrom Co., Ltd.,]

[London.

PIER AND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

[Dundee.

EIRIAS DINGLE, COLWYN BAY.

and Llandudno ; that to the left to Brynmaen, Llanrwst and Bettws-y-Coed. To the right of the Four Crosses, and but a few yards distant, is—

The Flag Staff Hill,

(*admission 3d.*), which overlooks an extensive area. To the west is a good view of Conway Castle, as well as of the adjoining river, with the Suspension and Tubular Bridges over it ; and a little more to the south is the Snowdonian range. Immediately below is the town. Away towards the north-west are the Great and Little Ormes, and eastward is Rhyl, with its pier running far into the sea.

At its eastern end the Old Highway connects with Abergele Road, just after crossing—

Nant-y-Glyn Valley,

the most sheltered spot in the whole district. Being entirely screened from north and east winds, it has a temperature so genial that sub-tropical plants are largely cultivated in it, and flourish in the open all the year round. A walk of about two miles up the valley leads to **Bryn-y-Maen**, a pretty upland village with a handsome church, known as the “Cathedral of the Hills,” the tower of which commands one of the finest panoramic views in Wales. Or by following the Abergele Road for about 200 yards beyond the entrance to the valley, the visitor comes to the point at which the thoroughfare forks, the left-hand branch going to Old Colwyn, the right to—

St. Elian's Well and Llanelian.

Taking this road, at the end of a mile one begins to descend, and, just before reaching the bottom of the hill, there is on the left the site of the **Cursing Well of St. Elian**, interesting now only from its associations, as the shrine was destroyed by a rector to suppress the superstition it encouraged in his people.

There is no path and the well cannot actually be reached. A tree overhangs the depression and that is all that can be seen.

The well was greatly resorted to by persons from all parts of Britain. Even late in the nineteenth century it was visited by malicious people who desired to be avenged on their enemies. The name of the “devoted” person was written on paper, and a crooked pin was put through it. His or her

initials were then written on a pebble, which was thrown into the well by the custodian, who, of course, had to be paid for the trouble. Then the enemy was supposed to be under a curse as long as the pebble remained in the water. To get it removed, the victim had to go to the well and pay a higher sum than that which was said to have been received for its immersion. The well was a terror throughout the Principality.

A quarter of a mile beyond the well stands **Llanelian Church**, 530 feet above the sea-level. From its vicinity there is a good view, but the building is the main attraction. It is of the fifteenth century, and is said to have replaced one of much earlier date. The church has a spacious rood-loft, almost unique, and contains some very ancient paintings. At the east end is a modern carving of the Last Supper. In the churchyard are yew-trees of various ages. At the south-east corner is a quaint sundial, and by the south-east angle of the church is a tomb on which are coats of arms quartering the lion of Scotland, the leopards of England and the white hart of Richard II. It is supposed that he who was laid here to rest, one Thomas Holland, Esq., of Tierdan, who died in 1688, was a descendant of the first husband of Joan, "the fair maid of Kent," who became the wife of the Black Prince and the mother of Richard II.

From the Church, by turning sharply to the left, a walk of less than two miles will bring one to Old Colwyn.

The Little Orme

is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Colwyn Bay. It can be reached by the electric trams which run between Colwyn Bay and Llandudno. The walking route is along the Conway Road as far as the Council School, and then to the right, over the railway bridge, and past Llandrillo Church, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from which, near the Little Orme, is the village of **Penrhynside**, having in its vicinity an ancient house of the same name. The Little Orme affords magnificent views; but great care should be exercised, the seaward side being quite precipitous.

Between the Little Orme's Head and the village of Llanrhos are the Bodafon and Gloddaeth Hills, described in the excursions from Llandudno. The route from Colwyn Bay is by way of Llandrillo Church—the parish church of Rhos-on-Sea. Then, at a point where four roads meet, go to the left for

a hundred yards, and at a cottage begin to ascend the **Bodafon Hills**, the summit of which will soon be reached.

Descending a little, and passing two or three cottages, the **Gloddaeth Hills** are reached at the site of a ruined windmill. The famous **Gloddaeth Woods** lie to the east of the mill. By keeping a wall and the wood on the left, the visitor arrives at a point from which there is a delightful and extensive prospect.

EXCURSIONS FROM COLWYN BAY.

Colwyn Bay is a convenient centre from which to visit the greater part of North Wales. By making use of the L. & N. W., all the places of interest on or near the railway can be conveniently reached at comparatively little cost. Coaches and motors leave the principal street daily all through the summer, and make the round of the attractive scenery of Snowdonia, or carry their passengers eastward or westward along the good roads of the Principality. The steamboats, which daily call at Rhos Pier, afford the opportunity of making pleasant excursions by sea.

For the general information of the reader, we give some programmes of Motor and Coach Tours, but current advertisements should be consulted, as variations are often made.

Motor Loop Tours.

Criccieth and Pwllheli, 115 miles.

Llangollen, 115 miles.

Aberglaslyn, 96 miles.

Corwen, 96 miles.

Baumaris, 80 miles.

Llanberis, 76 miles.

Bethesda, 56 miles.

Abergele and Llanrwst, 48 miles.

Marble Church, St. Asaph and Rhuddlan Castle, 30 miles.

Coach Tours.

The Grand Loop Tour, comprising Bettws-y-Coed, Swallow Falls, Capel Curig, Pass of Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda, Aber, Llanfairfechan, 56 miles. (With the exception of the first and last two or three miles, the route is identical with the Llandudno Loop Tour, described in the Llandudno section.)

Bettws-y-Coed, 40 miles.

Rhuddlan, St. Asaph, Bodelwyddan Marble Church, 28 miles.

Penmaenmawr, 23 miles.

Conway and Tal-y-Cafn, 23 miles.

Bodnant Hall and Gardens (Tuesdays and Saturdays), 16 miles.

The New Loop Tour, 35 miles.

The Short Loop Tour, 23 miles.

Rhydyfoel, Bettws-yn-Rhos and Coed Coch, 20 miles.

Round Rhos, Penrhyn Old Hall and Windmill.

Note. The grounds of Gwrych Castle are open to visitors on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

RHOS-ON-SEA.

Electric cars run from the top of Station Road, within two minutes of Colwyn Bay Station.

Rhos-on-Sea, a suburb of Colwyn Bay, and under the same local government, is pleasantly situated on the western horn of the inlet from which the neighbouring town takes its name. Spacious streets and avenues have been laid out, and along the sea-front runs the westernmost portion of the fine Promenade and Marine Drive that follow the curve of the bay for nearly three miles eastward. As the site projects into the sea, and is not crossed by the railway, the views over the bay on both sides, with the mountains in the background, are very charming. Being more exposed than the town of Colwyn Bay, Rhos is rather bleak in winter, but in summer its air is delightfully bracing.

At the end of the Promenade is a **Pier**, 1,500 feet long. (*Admission, 1d. ; bathing, 3d. ; fishing, 3d.*) Steamers call daily in connection with the trips from Llandudno (which *see*).

Immediately westward of the Pier is a **Fishing Weir**, formed of stakes and stones, and so contrived that the fish which enter do not find their way out again. The water flows into the enclosure at every tide, and can escape only by a grating at one angle. Salmon, herring, mackerel and other fish are caught, sometimes in large numbers.

The owner of the weir has in his possession a document signed and sealed by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, granting the site to his ancestor, Morgan ap John ap David, of Maesegrwyd. The Earl of Leicester became possessed of it by a grant from Queen Elizabeth. The weir is thought to

have been first formed 700 years ago by the monks of the Cistercian Abbey at Conway, and to have been confiscated at the Reformation. The Vicar of the parish claims and receives a tithe of the fish caught. Those entrapped every tenth day are his, and are hauled out by the sexton. In former times the proprietor insisted on the Vicar reading prayers at the weir three times during the fishing season, "as was customary on all sea-coasts in these parts when tithes of fish were paid."

The tithe now paid to the Vicar used to be the due of the monastery, in the grounds of which stands the *Rhos Abbey Hotel*.

The monks were accustomed to pray in the **Chapel of St. Trillo** for a good haul. This building covers a spring of water close to the shore, and will be found by following the road westward of the Pier for about a quarter of a mile. It is a plain, stone-roofed structure, 11 feet long by 8 feet wide, and with walls 2 feet thick.

Westward of the Pier also, under the shadow of the Little Orme, stretches the 18-hole course of the **Rhos-on-Sea Golf Club**, whose Club-house is on the tram route.

In the vicinity is Rhyd-y-Cerrig-Gwynion, where, according to tradition, Prince Madoc, son of Owen Gwynedd, embarked for the "New World" (Mexico) about 300 years before the time of Columbus.

The **Parish Church** (often called Llandrillo Church, the old name of the village being Llandrillo-yn-Rhos) is about three-quarters of a mile inland. It can be reached from the Promenade by Rhos Road, which leaves the front 300 yards eastward of the Pier. The building is mainly in the Perpendicular style, but its northern portion and the tower contain traces of Early English and Decorated work. The windows contain some very fine stained glass. On the north wall in the interior is a tombstone of the thirteenth or fourteenth century to Ednyfed Fychan, Prime Minister to Llewelyn. The most noteworthy feature of the church is its massive square tower, with double-stepped battlements. The only other example of this in North Wales is at Llanbeblig. The lych-gate is dated 1677.

A short distance from the church are the ivy-clad ruins of **Llys Eurnyn, or Ednyfed's Castle**. They are probably the remains of a fifteenth-century manor-house, which succeeded

a castle inhabited in the thirteenth century by Ednyfed, whose tomb is in the Parish Church.

To the south of Llys Eurn is a grassy hill, called **Bryn Eurn**, in great favour with picnic parties. The summit shows traces of an ancient fortification and commands a wide view. At one's feet lies the whole length of the beautiful Mochdre valley, and in the distance is the River Conway. On the other side is the full sweep of the Bay, from Penmaen Head to the Little Orme.

OLD COLWYN.

Electric Cars and Motor Omnibuses (L. & N.W.R.) to and from Colwyn Bay at short intervals.

Old Colwyn, a village on the high-road a little distance from the sea and possessing a railway station, is a pleasant, quiet, secluded resort, in favour with visitors who prefer a homely place in which to spend a holiday. Through their patronage and its natural advantages it is fast developing, so that it may soon lose some of the special charms it now possesses.

From its elevated site old Colwyn commands a magnificent prospect, embracing the whole stretch of Colwyn Bay, Rhos-on-Sea, the Orme's Head, and several of the lofty heights of North Carnarvonshire, whilst the hills at the back afford protection from east winds.

It was from this village that the neighbouring Bay derived its name, for the place was simply Colwyn until, after the rise of the adjacent resort, the present prefix was added by the railway company to prevent confusion.

The principal public buildings in the village are **St. Catherine's Church**, a pretty edifice with an ivy-covered steeple, and a new church for English services.

The shore is notable for its many kinds of marine life, and affords safe and pleasant bathing. Here is the eastern end of the fine promenade which skirts the Bay.

Behind the village is the **Fairy Glen**, a favourite resort of Old Colwyn's visitors. It is a picturesque, wooded dingle traversed by a stream and containing a miniature lake.

Also within a few minutes' walk of the centre of the village is a 9-hole **Golf Course**, with a Clubhouse.

Visitors: Day, October 1 to March 31, 1s.; day, April 1 to September 30, 2s.; week, 7s.; fortnight, 10s.; month, 15s. Family tickets to visitors whose family consists of four or more playing members, 10s. per playing member per month.

A variety of pleasant walks may be taken among the neighbouring woods and hills. One of the most popular of these rambles is over the headland of **Penmaen-Rhos** to **Llysfaen**, a distance of a couple of miles. The road over the headland was much dreaded by travellers in olden days. It was narrow and unprotected, so that most travellers consulted their safety by leading their horses over it. It was probably on Penmaen-Rhos that King Richard II was made prisoner, when on his way from Ireland to Flint Castle. Under Penmaen-Rhos are caves accessible at low tides.

Llysfaen Hill, which rises 600 feet above the sea, is visited for the sake of the view. It was formerly one of the chain of semaphore stations from Holyhead to Liverpool, by means of which news of incoming vessels was conveyed. Note the grand view of the Great Orme, on which stood the next westward station.

Llysfaen Church (restored) is a good example of the two-aisled churches of this district. The present vestry was the original church. In the eleventh century there was added to it the portion which is now the north aisle. The remainder of the building belongs to the thirteenth century.

Five miles eastward of Old Colwyn are **Abergele**, **Pensarn** and **Gwrych Castle**.

ABERGELE AND PENSARN.

ABERGELE, a small market town, is situated about a mile from the sea and the railway station, five miles westward of Rhyl and six miles eastward of Colwyn Bay. Its suburb, **Pensarn**, is close to the sea, and the two places are connected by the spacious Dundonald Avenue. The drainage is complete and satisfactory, and the water-supply is drawn from the same source as that of Rhyl.

Both places are patronized by holiday-makers who enjoy a quiet seaside resort, or prefer to go where accommodation can be obtained at lower charges than those prevailing in fashionable places. Abergele makes less provision for visitors than does Pensarn, most of the apartment-houses being at the latter.

The sands are good for walking and bathing. There is an asphalted **Promenade**, from each end of which the beach can be traversed for several miles, and the railway embankment makes a capital raised promenade about two miles long. The neighbourhood abounds with sylvan beauty, and visitors can conveniently enjoy the excursions that start from either Rhyl or Colwyn Bay. Brakes also run from Abergele to places in the vicinity.

Abergele station is the nearest station to Llanfair River, 5 miles, and St. George, 3 miles, where trout fishing may be obtained. Day, 2s. 6d.; week, 10s.; season, 42s.

Abergele Church

(open all day)

is worth a visit. It dates from the reign of Henry VIII, and was restored in 1879. "From the initials and dates on the screen, it is supposed that this part of the church was used as a school in the sixteenth century, and that the pupils measured their heights thereon, the oldest date being 1511, at the entrance to the south chancel aisle. The pillars are



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

LLANDRILLO CHURCH AND THE LITTLE ORME.

[Reigate.]



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

GWRYCH CASTLE.

[Reigate.]

in places curiously indented, probably by archers, who used them as grindstones for their arrows."

Other objects of interest in the interior are the rude carving of the screen; a thirteenth-century stone cross in the floor within the Communion rails, "probably the coffin lid of an Abbot"; remnants of the ancient glass of the east window; a wooden safe made of a single log of oak; and the Communion plate, which includes a chalice dated 1601.

A few yards past the Castle Hotel, at the head of the Dundonald Avenue, is a passage leading to a footpath through Abergele churchyard. In the short length of wall on the right, on entering the burial-ground, is a modern tablet inscribed, "Here lieth a man who had his dwelling 3 miles to the north." The words were taken from an adjacent stone that had become illegible. Unless some mistake has been made, the inscription tends to prove that the sea has considerably encroached upon the land, for a spot three miles to the north of the grave is now two miles out at sea.

A quarter of a mile from Abergele, on the Bangor road, is the eastern lodge of—

Gwrych Castle.

The western or principal entrance is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther.

Admission.—On *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays*, visitors are allowed to drive through the grounds in the carriages of the proprietors of certain livery stables in Abergele and Colwyn Bay.

The grounds are very charming, and are noted for their cypresses.

The castle is the seat of the Earl of Dundonald, of Lady-smith fame, and is a modern building erected in an antique style. Much of it is merely a shell, and has been built only for effect. The front extends some 480 yards, and comprises 18 embattled towers, the principal one being 93 feet high. On each side of the Castle is a noble terrace about 420 yards in length. With its background of thickly wooded hills, Gwrych Castle is one of the most picturesque residences in the kingdom.

Outside the principal entrance are tablets bearing inscriptions relating to the "pass" at the foot of the cliff, along which lies, now as in olden days, the route between east and west.

They record the defeat of Harold, the "Last of the Saxons," by

Gryffydd-ap-Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales; an attack upon Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, in the reign of William the Conqueror, by a band of Welshmen, of whom 1,100 were left dead upon the spot; the defeat of an English force in the reign of Henry II, by Owen Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales; and the capture of Richard II by the Earl of Northumberland, by whom he was placed in the power of the usurper, Henry, Duke of Lancaster.

A splendid view-point is the summit of **Cefn-yr-Ogof**, the hill containing the cave just mentioned and other caverns. It has an elevation of 668 feet, and can be reached through Gwrych Castle Park. The view includes St. Asaph, the Vale of Clwyd, Penmaenmawr Mountain, Carnedd Llewelyn, Penllithrig-y-Wrach, Tryfan, Moel Siabod, Anglesey and Puffin Island, and, in very clear weather, the Isle of Man and Liverpool.

Less than a mile from Abergele is **Castell Cawr**, a tree-covered hill that was a Roman stronghold. It affords a fine view into the Vale of Clwyd. From the schools on the Bangor Road, a field-path leads to a lane under the hill. By turning to the left on reaching the lane, one is led past a quarry to the remains of the ancient entrenchments.

Tower Hill, crowned by an old watch-tower discernible for miles around, commands a good view of Rhuddlan Marsh. The path to it is alongside the miniature river *Gele*.

Southward is **Moelfre Isaf**, which can be reached by a pleasant walk of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The best route is to the right of Tower Hill through Plas Uchaf Woods. Another way is along the St. Asaph road for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and then to the right. The summit is 1,038 feet above sea-level, and affords a delightful view of Snowdonia. The most conspicuous peak is Moel Siabod; to the right of that is Snowdon. The descent may be made to a road on the south, and the village of Llanfair-Talhaiarn reached in about an hour.

Llanfair-Talhaiarn

is a small, straggling village, five miles nearly due south of Abergele, in a picturesque situation on the *Elwy*, a tributary of the Clwyd. The coach-road to it from Abergele ascends to a height of about 600 feet and then dips down to the bed of the river Elwy, which offers sport to anglers, and is sometimes the scene of an otter-hunt. Welshmen regard Llanfair-Talhaiarn with great interest, as the churchyard contains the grave of the Welsh bard Talhaiarn, whose memory is as

fondly cherished by his countrymen as that of Burns is by Scotsmen. In the Church are valuable pewter vessels.

The Rhyl excursion vehicles that run to Llanfair-Talhaiarn and make it their turning point, return through the wonderful **Bryn-y-Pin Pass**, called "the Switzerland of Wales." The sides of the rugged mountains are beautifully wooded, magnificent views are obtained, and the effects of a great landslip excite the wonder and awe of all. The Pass is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. At the northern end is the *Cross Foxes Inn*, concerning which much interest has been aroused by coach proprietors and others associating it with Sir H. M. Stanley, but though it was one of his mother's homes, the great traveller never lived in it, as readers of his life well know.

Five miles south-west of Llanfair-Talhaiarn is the old town of—

Llangerniew,

which is visited by the Rhyl coaches in the course of an all-day drive of 45 miles. Beyond the town the route ascends to a point over a thousand feet above sea-level, passing on the way the pleasant residence called **Hafod-yn-Nos** ("built in the night," or "a one night's rest"), and going through an avenue of "Monkey Puzzle" trees. The summit of the mountain commands beautiful views of mountain, vale and sea, and is the site of an old-fashioned Welsh inn, a solitary building, bearing on its signboard, as does also the *Holland Arms Hotel* in Llangerniew, the following quaint invitation—

"As you venture here to pass this dreary mountain o'er
Pray do take a refreshing glass of 'Cwrw da'¹ or porter:
But if you wish to call for more, or like to have a ration,
Coch-yr-Wden,² I have in store hanging o'er the kitchen floor
Just ready for a luncheon."

St. George and Kinmel Park

lie $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the south-east of Abergele, and form the object of a pleasant walk. **Kinmel Park** is not open to the public. During the War it was the site of a large camp. **St. George** is a small village at its northern entrance, and the site, tradition says, of the great conflict between St. George and the Dragon. In bygone days those who told the story sought to convince their hearers of its truth by pointing to the marks of the horse's hoofs on the coping stone of the churchyard wall.

¹ *Cwrw da*, good beer.

² *Coch-yr-Wden*, hung venison.

According to another tradition, Oliver Cromwell was once at Kinnel. A spur, said to have been his, is preserved in the hall. In the old hall, destroyed by fire in 1841, there was a room known as Oliver Cromwell's Parlour, and a beautiful avenue of trees is still known as Oliver Cromwell's Avenue.

A few years ago the Church was rebuilt. In the churchyard is the mausoleum of the Dinorben family.

Above the village is a wooded height locally known as **Fort Dinorben**. Upon it are the remains of extensive fortifications.

Two miles from St. George is **Bodelwyddan Church**, described in the Rhyl section.

A little to the west of the noted pass of **Cefn Ogof**, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from either Abergele or Pensarn, is—

Llandulas,

a pretty seaside village surrounded by woods, but having lime-works in the vicinity. It is the centre of many lovely drives and walks and every year attracts an increasing number of visitors who like a quiet holiday. As it has a railway station it is easy of access, and visits to the popular resorts on each side can be easily made.

LLANDUDNO.

Access.—(1) By the Chester and Holyhead line of the L. & N.W.R. (Passengers who are not in a "through" carriage change at Llandudno Junction.) Frequent through express trains—4½ hours from London (Euston), 3 from Birmingham (New Street), 2 from Manchester (Exchange), 2 from Liverpool (Lime Street).

Tourist, week-end and long-date tickets are issued from all the principal centres, and there are frequent excursions from all parts.

(2) By Steamer from Liverpool.

Banks.—*National Provincial*, Mostyn Street; *London City and Midland*, 103, Mostyn Street; *Lloyds*, 22, Mostyn Street; *London, Westminster and Parr's*, 40, Mostyn Street.

Bath Chairs.—Not exceeding 1 hour, 1s. 6d.; each additional quarter-hour, 4d.

Bathing Machines.—6d. for one person, and an additional 3d. for every other person. Mixed bathing is allowed from machines near the centre of the Bay. Weekly tickets, 2s. 6d. one person, 1s. each extra person.

Baths.—Strong swimmers can bathe from Pigeon's Cave, on the Marine Drive, at almost all times of the day and from the lower deck of the Pier-head between 7 and 9 a.m. At the latter dressing-boxes, etc., are provided at a charge of 6d. Baths, including fresh and sea-water plunge, Turkish, Russian, brine, bran, mercurial, seaweed, electric, and compressed air, are open to the public at the Hydropathic Establishment, in the centre of the Bay.

Boating.—For a rowing boat, one hour or less, 3s. On any boat plying at stated hours, 1s. per passenger per hour, children 9d.

Carriage Fares.—In every case, except where the carriage is drawn or propelled by hand, the hiring is by distance, unless the hirer expresses at the commencement of hiring his desire to engage by time.

By Distance—One-horse carriage, 1s. 9d. any distance not exceeding a mile; 9d. for each subsequent half-mile.

Two-horse carriage, 2s. 6d. a mile, 1s. each extra half-mile.

By Time—One-horse carriage, 5s. per hour; 1s. each subsequent 15 minutes.

Two-horse carriage, 8s. each hour; 2s. each subsequent 15 minutes.

The driver is entitled to charge a fare and a half between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m., and a double fare between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Return fares are half those given above.

Special Fares for Marine Drive—

Carriage drawn by two horses (for the entire circuit) 12/-

Carriage drawn by one horse or two ponies or mules " " 7/6

Carriage drawn by one pony or mule, or by two asses " " 6/-

Carriage drawn by one ass " " 4/6

Concerts and other Entertainments.—The *Pavilion* on the Pier; The *Palladium*, Gloddaeth Street; *Pier Theatre of Varieties*; *Roller-Skating Rink* and Tea Gardens, eastern end of Esplanade; *Grand Theatre*, Mostyn Broadway; *Prince's Theatre* (cinematograph), Mostyn Street, and a new Cinema Theatre seating 1,600; the Happy Valley Minstrels and the Promenade Band daily. The Pier Orchestral Concerts continue until end of October.

Cricket, Tennis, Bowls, etc.—There is a well-kept cricket ground off Gloddaeth Street, having an area of 8 acres. A professional is engaged. Members' subscription, 10s. 6d. Visitors' weekly ticket, 5s. Adjoining are several tennis courts, and an excellent bowling green, etc., approached from Gloddaeth Avenue and Lloyd Street. Tennis, two players, 9d. each per hour; four players, 6d. each. Weekly, 7s. 6d.; Season, £1. Bowls, 6d. per visit.

Also in Queen's Road, Craig-y-don, there is a recreation ground with tennis courts and croquet lawns open to visitors.

Distances from Large Towns.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham	122	Liverpool (sea) . . .	35	London	227
Chester	47½	Liverpool (road) . . .	67	Manchester	84½

Distances to Neighbouring Places.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aber	13	Dwygyfylchi	7	Mochdre and Pabo . .	5½
Abergele and Pen- sarn	13	Gloddaeth	2	Menai Bridge	20
Bangor	18½	Hawarden	43	Penmaenmawr	8½
Beaumaris	25	Holyhead	43	Penrhynside	2½
Bethesda	23½	Holywell	31	Pen-y-Gwryd	29
Bettws-y-Coed	18½	Little Orme Drive . .	5	Pontypant	23
Bodafon	2	Llanberis	36	Rhuddlan	20½
Blaenau Festiniog . .	30½	Llandulas	11	Rhyl	18
Capel Curig	24	Llandrillo-yn-rhos . .	4	Ruthin	35
Carnarvon	27	Llanfairfechan	11	Snowdon	36
Chester	47½	Llangelynin	8	St. Asaph	23
Colwyn Bay (rail) . .	7½	Llanrhos	1½	Sychnant Pass	6
Conway	4	Llanrwst	14½	St. Tudno's Church (Orme's Head)	1
Deganwy	2	Llansaintffraid Glan Conway	6	Tal-y-Cafn	8½
Denbigh	28½	Marine Drive (round Gt. Orme).	6	Trefriw	15½
Dolwyddelen	24				

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Free Library and News Room.—Mostyn Street.

Golf.—18-hole course of the *North Wales Club*, on the west or Conway shore, 10 minutes from station. Entrance fee; 5 guineas local members, 3 guineas country members; annual subscription, 3 guineas or 2 guineas. Members of any recognized golf club may use the links on payment of 2s. 6d. per day, 10s. per week, or 30s. per month. The club has a membership of over 300—the largest in the Principality. The full and sportive course of the *Great Orme's Head Club*, 2s. 6d. per day, 10s. per week. Sunday play without caddies; clubhouse with bedrooms. The new *Maesdu Golf Club*, 2s. a day, 10s. week, 15s. month, annual 21s. The links of the *Carnarvonshire Golf Club*, on Conway Morfa, reached by ferry from Deganwy, are also available. See Conway and Deganwy chapter.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—Information regarding the town may be obtained from Mr. J. T. Dorkins, Town Hall, Llandudno. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Local Government.—The affairs of the town are administered by a District Council.

Motor Buses.—The *Silver Motor Buses* run about every hour from Trinity Square to Craig-y-don, 2d.; Llanrhos, 3d.; Deganwy, 5d.; Llandudno Junction, 8d.; Conway and Bettws-y-Coed 3s. 10d., *via* Roewen, Talybont, Trefriw and Llanrwst. Buses run twice daily to Penmaenmawr, 1s. 8d.

Newspapers.—*Llandudno Advertiser*, *Llandudno Directory*, *Llandudno Herald*.

Omnibuses at short intervals throughout the day between the Pier entrance, Craig-y-don and Craidside (fare, 2d.).

Places of Worship, with hours of service on Sundays :—

Established Church, Parish of Llandudno.

St. George's (Parish Church), Church Walks—8 and 11.30 (Welsh, 10 and 6).

Holy Trinity, Trinity Square—8, 11, 3.15 and 6.30.

St. Tudno's, Great Orme's Head—11 and 6 during season.

Church of our Saviour, West Shore—8, 11, and 6.30.

Bodafon Mission, Little Orme—11 and 7 (Welsh, 6).

St. Bruno Mission, Great Orme—10.30 (Welsh, 6).

Parish of Llanrhos.

Llanrhos, near Gloddaeth—11 and 7 (Welsh, 5.45).

St. Paul's, Craig-y-don—8, 11 and 6.30.

St. Andrew's Mission Church, Lees Road—6.30.

Nonconformist.

Roman Catholic, Lloyd Street—8, 11 and 6.30.

English Baptist, Mostyn Street—11 and 6.20.

English Congregational, Llewellyn Street—11 and 6.30.

English Presbyterian, Chapel Street—11 and 6.30.

English Wesleyan, Mostyn Street—11 and 6.30.

English Wesleyan Mission, Craig-y-don and West Shore—6.30.

Welsh Baptist, "Tabernacle," Llewellyn Street, "Salem," Adelphi Street "Horeb," Great Orme's Head—10 and 6.

Welsh Congregational, Deganwy Avenue—10 and 6.

Welsh Independent, Deganwy Street—10 and 6.

Welsh Wesleyan Methodist, "Ebenezer," Lloyd Street, *Caersalem*, Cwllach Road—10 and 6.

Welsh Calvinistic Methodist, "Siloh," Gloddaeth Avenue; "Rehoboth," Trinity Street; "Bethania," Nant-y-gamar Road; "Hyfrydle," Great Orme's Head—10 and 6.

Warren West Shore English Wesleyan—10 and 6.

Population.—11,500.

Post Office.—Vaughan Street, close to Station.

Public Halls.—*Masonic Hall*, Mostyn Street, accommodates about 500 persons; *Prince's Theatre*, Mostyn Street, used as a Cinematograph Hall, will seat 500 persons; *The Grand Theatre*, Mostyn Broadway, will seat 1,200 persons; *Arcadia*, Craig-y-don (pierrots); *The Pier Pavilion*; *Pier Theatre of Varieties*; the *Town Hall*, in Lloyd Street.

Railway Fares from Llandudno.

Plus War Supplement.

											Single.	
											1st.	3rd.
Aber	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/4	1/1
Abergele	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/4	1/1
Bangor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/3	1/6½
Bettws-y-Coed	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/2	1/6
Carnarvon.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/9	2/3
Chester	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8/4	3/11½
Conway	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-/9	-/4
Colwyn Bay	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1/4	-/7½
Denbigh	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5/-	2/4½
Deganwy	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-/4	-/2
Llanrwst	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/7	1/2½
Llanfairfechan	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/-	-/11
Llanberis	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6/4	3/-
Llandudno Junction	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-/7	-/3
Penmaenmawr	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1/6	-/8½
Rhyl	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3/2	1/6
St. Asaph	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/1	1/11

Sea Fishing.—Excellent from the pier, boats, and rocks. The local *Sea Anglers' Association* affords every help and information. Annual subscription, 2s. 6d.

Town Porters.—Certain porters are specially licensed by the Pier Company, and convey luggage from any part of the town to the steamers. These porters will attend visitors provided notice is given to the officials at the Pier en-

trance at least one hour before the departure of the steamer at which the luggage is required to be delivered.

Visitors departing by steamer should be careful to ascertain whether the porter they engage is one of the Pier porters, otherwise they may be disappointed and find that their luggage has been left at the Marine Drive entrance to the Pier instead of being taken direct to the steamer.

Any porter other than those specially licensed by the Pier Company may deliver luggage at the steamers, but ordinary Pier tolls will have to be paid by him, namely 6d. for a handcart or barrow, and 2d. if the luggage is carried in hand.

Trams every 15 minutes from West Shore, along Gloddaeth Street, Mostyn Street, Mostyn Broadway, Mostyn Avenue to foot of Penrhynside, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, and Old Colwyn in 1d. stages.

L LANDUDNO, the most widely-known resort on the coast of North Wales, is situated on a narrow peninsula projecting into the Irish Sea. On each side is a bold headland—the Great Orme and the Little Orme—while in front and in rear is the sea, distinguished respectively as Llandudno Bay, or Orme's Bay, and West Shore Bay. In the former the water never goes far out, but the latter at low tide exhibits a considerable expanse of sand.

The name of the town is formed of two words, *Llan* and *Tudno*, the former signifying a consecrated enclosure, or church, the latter being the name of the saint to whom the old Parish Church was dedicated. St. Tudno was a saint of the Celtic Church and belonged to that period of the British Church famous for missionary zeal. He was the son of a chieftain of considerable power and wealth, who flourished early in the sixth century, and was sometimes called *Seithenyn Feddw*—Seithenyn the Drunken. St. Tudno founded his cell where St. Tudno's Church now stands.

In the middle of the nineteenth century the place consisted only of a few scattered cottages and two small inns, but it was then on the eve of its wonderful development. Recognizing the possibilities of the site as a health and pleasure resort, the owner, the Hon. E. M. L. Mostyn, M.P., caused it to be planned on the lines of a first-class watering-place, and in 1849 plots to the number of 176 were offered for sale by auction. Then began that orderly piling up of bricks and mortar which has resulted in a town containing a magnificent array of marine residences along its crescent-shaped bay, handsome blocks of buildings, fine hotels, boarding houses, etc., and shops which cannot be surpassed in the Principality.

Ever since the builder was given his opportunity he has

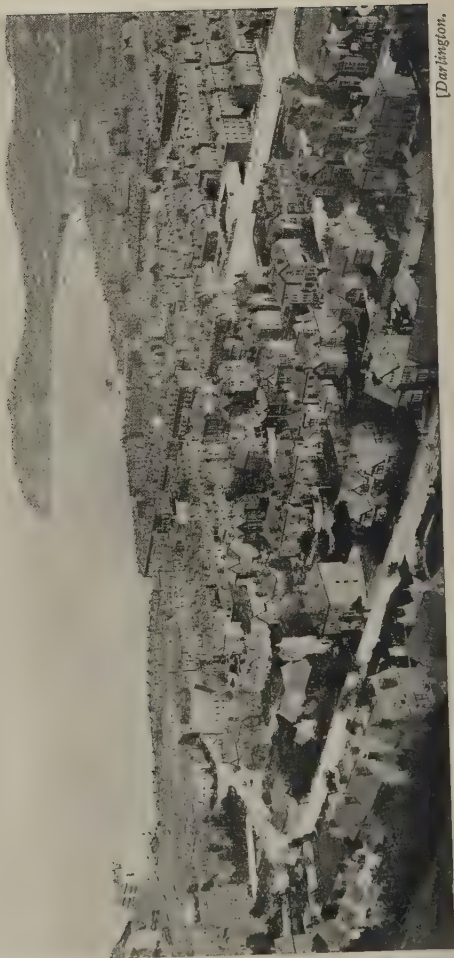


[Darlington.]

LLANDUDNO AND THE LITTLE ORME.

Slater.]

Llandudno (a).



[Darlington.]

LLANDUDNO.

Skater.]

been steadily covering the plain between the two bays and carrying on his operations up the headlands. He has even laboured so far eastward that Llandudno is now all but linked with the outworks of her rival there, vigorous and charming Colwyn Bay. Yet the demand for accommodation is now still unsatisfied and the town is continuing its growth, although it has a resident population of nearly 12,000 and can receive about four times that number of visitors in its palatial hotels and hydros, its well-appointed boarding-houses and its "private apartment" houses, which number considerably over 2,000.

The geographical position of Llandudno makes it pre-eminently the centre for North Wales steamboat passenger traffic and coaching, as well as a capital starting-point from which to make excursions into Snowdonia, to explore the beauties of the river Conway—the Welsh Rhine—or to visit the many places of interest along the coast. Its situation, climate, and magnificent beach—the ease with which it can be reached, and the unceasing efforts of the local authorities to promote the health, comfort, and enjoyment of visitors, fully account for the popularity Llandudno has achieved. To quote Mr. Ashby-Sterry—"If you want to enjoy yourself, Llandudno is the very place to come to. Nature seems here to have constructed—

An Ideal Seaside Resort,

and it has not in anywise been spoilt by art. Though there is ample accommodation for its numerous visitors, one is struck by the absence of crowding. The sense of freedom, of plenty of room, of pure air, pervading every portion of the township is remarkable. Though there are mountains all round and about it, they are not too close. There is no overpowering or oppressive feeling about them. They keep their distance; they are picturesque, but not presuming; and they form admirable backgrounds whichever way you look. There are no slums; there is no stuffiness; there are no evil smells; there are none of the skeletons in the cupboard which may be discovered without much difficulty in some more pretentious holiday resorts.

"As a clever American remarked, 'I guess I never saw a town so thoroughly well ventilated as Llandudno.' This arises from two circumstances—firstly, its exceptional situa-

tion, with Orme's Bay at the front and Conway Bay at the back ; and secondly, that it has not grown in haphazard fashion—but rather it has been accurately planned, and its future career has been carefully thought out in a liberal spirit."

John Bright, a frequent visitor at Llandudno, in the course of a speech delivered there, said : "When I look at the position of your town on the beautiful bay ; when I look round me and see the beauties of your locality ; when I remember how near you are to the finest scenery of this glorious Wales ; when I observe and enjoy the purity of your climate, which in winter, I believe, is not surpassed by that of any other place in the United Kingdom ; when I remember all the courtesy and all the kind attention with which I have met, I am free to say that I have great faith in your future, and I hope and believe that your growth and your prosperity will be continual and lasting."

In compliment to this distinguished and enthusiastic visitor the **County Intermediate School**, opened in 1907, bears his name.

The Climate

of Llandudno was for many years under the close observation of the late Dr. James Nicol, then Medical Officer of Health, and a comparison of his records with those of other towns shows that in respect of climate Llandudno is one of the most highly-favoured health resorts of Great Britain. With a view of making a strict comparison between the climatic reports from Llandudno and those from a number of other seaside and inland places, Mr. William Marriott, Secretary of the Royal Meteorological Society, extracted from the *Meteorological Record* the values for fifteen years, and the tables showing the average results give incontestable evidence that Llandudno is admirably adapted by its climate to be both a summer and a winter resort. For the three winter months, the temperature is shown to be practically the same as that of Torquay, Weymouth and Ventnor, the greatest difference occurring in the comparison with Ventnor, but the southern town has the advantage to the extent of only seven-tenths of a degree, while Llandudno has a greater advantage than that over Brighton, the actual value being nine-tenths of a degree. On the other hand, its summer temperature is

rather more than two degrees lower than that of Brighton and of Ventnor, nearly two lower than that of Weymouth, and four-fifths of a degree lower than that of Torquay. In other words, while it is cooler at Llandudno in summer than at some of the most favoured watering-places in the South of England, it is equally warm in winter.

Each succeeding winter finds Llandudno sheltering an increased number of those who have to seek a balmy retreat during the coldest months of the year. "We have visited the town," says one, "in January and February, when the Midlands and even the southern parts of England have been fast bound in winter's icy fetters, and the ground covered with snow, and found the sun shining, the air balmy, and the temperature genial, 'comfortable weather,' which was rendered all the more enjoyable by its contrast with the snow-covered mountains which formed the background to the scene." The plants and shrubs which remain in the open gardens throughout the winter months bear unimpeachable testimony to the mildness of the weather. They include camellias, carnations, fuchsias, geraniums, hydrangeas, japonica, myrtle, pansies, roses, verbenas, veronicas and many others.

The presence of the sea, which surrounds three-fourths of the town, is one cause of this exceptional climate, and the shelter from the north winds given by the Great Orme is another.

Llandudno also possesses that "moderately dry air which is best adapted to the physical constitution of mankind generally." The inland mountain ranges intercept the vapour-laden winds that blow from the tropics, and rob them of their moisture before they reach the coast, and the rain that Llandudno does receive is quickly absorbed, for the subsoil is mostly gravel and sand, extremely porous.

For a period of fifteen years, the average rainfall at Llandudno, as shown by Mr. Marriott's tables, is only 28·88 inches, a remarkably low amount for a town on the west coast of Britain. Llandudno indeed receives but half an inch more than Ventnor and only a quarter of an inch more than popular Brighton.

Drainage and Water Supply

are matters of vital concern to intending visitors, and with

respect to both Llandudno is irreproachable. Works based on the most modern and scientific methods have been carried out at a cost of nearly £150,000, so that there is probably no better drained town in the kingdom. F2

The water supply may be described as perfect, being at once ample and guarded in every possible way against contamination. The water is derived from two lakes—Llyn Dulyn and Melyn Llyn—to the west of the Conway River, some sixteen miles from Llandudno, and not far below the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn, which is but a few feet lower than Snowdon. The lakes are the property of the town, as is also the gathering ground, which does not contain a single habitation. Professor Franklin, in a report accompanied by an analysis, says, “It is a most excellent water for dietetic and all domestic purposes. It is wholesome and palatable, and contains only a very small amount of vegetable organic matter. It is exceedingly soft, and, therefore, well adapted for washing. For the supply of a town it is fully equal to the celebrated Loch Katrine Water.”

The Lighting

is largely effected by electricity. The works have been wisely erected at a considerable distance and so constructed that they consume the refuse of the town, thereby providing three-fourths of the energy for driving the electricity plant.

As may be gathered from the last three paragraphs, the town, municipally, is very progressive. The gas and electricity undertakings, as well as the water supply, are in the hands of the Council, who have also erected a fine town hall, public abattoirs, workmen's dwellings and two isolation hospitals.

Cycling.

It has been rightly said that “among all the very varied attractions which the Llandudno district offers to the visitor, there is none more alluring than the excellent opportunities afforded to cyclists. Glancing at a map of North Wales, the resident of the flat country of the east and middle of England might very well suppose that here, at any rate, cycling was almost an impossibility. To the uninitiated, the mountainous nature of the district presents an insur-

mountable obstacle. Roads winding in and out, and over the huge masses of rocky table-land, do not seem to be conducive to comfortable riding, be the cyclist ever so enthusiastic. No greater mistake, however, could possibly be made. The roads are, for the most part, in splendid condition, the ascents and descents being generally fairly gradual, yet giving just that 'switchback' sense of novelty which is so enticing and exhilarating to the healthy wheelman. While, as to scenery, one might search the British Isles from John o' Groat's to Land's End without discovering so much natural beauty and magnificent grandeur as may be found within thirty miles of Llandudno." But, of course, it is essential that one's brakes should be in perfect working order. *Brakes*, observe; these hills are not safe for bicycles with only one.

Sea Fishing.

Good fishing is to be had all the year round from the Pier boats and rocks. The fish to be caught comprise pollack, cod, conger, whiting, plaice, soles, dabs, skates, bass, mackerel and coal-fish. June to September are the best months for pollack, plaice, cod, soles and mackerel. August and September are best for bass and conger. For the sum of half-a-crown, a visitor may become a member of the local *Sea Anglers' Association*, formed in 1905, to promote the art of sea-angling, and to exploit in particular the fishing grounds around Llandudno. A chart of the fishing waters around the town is kept by the Secretary and may be consulted freely. In other ways, too, information is given as to the best grounds, bait and tackle. Various competitions are arranged during the season, and a special boat tariff is granted to members of the Association.

The Flora of the District

is remarkably different from that of adjacent areas in Carnarvonshire and Denbighshire. Indeed, the plants which constitute the Llandudno flora surpass in number and variety of species those in any other area of equal extent. Some of the plants in the neighbourhood are very rare; one, the *Cotoneaster*, is found nowhere else in the British Isles than on the Great Orme's Head. In the middle of the last century it was there "in some quantity," but it is now all but

extinct, a fate that has quite overtaken the Royal Fern, which formerly grew on the Morfa.

Dealing with the Flora of Llandudno and its neighbourhood in a paper penned in 1905, Professor Phillips said—

“The variety of surface, soil and exposure affords considerable opportunity for the study of the modern science of ecology, or the common adaptations by which plants exposed to the same external conditions are brought into relationship to their environment. The compact, closely grazed sward of the limestone hills presents a characteristic association of plants among which occur, besides the grasses, the Common Rockrose, the Dwarf Rockrose, the Juniper, the Lesser Burnet, and the Vernal Squill. Woods and copses on the Limestone give another association, including the Lesser Meadow Rue, the Hairy Violet, the Nottingham Catchfly, the Dropwort, Wild Madder, the Fragrant Orchis, among others. The lower levels favour Wormwood, Fennel, Hemlock, Verbain and Henbane. The ledges among the cliffs harbour the Wild Cabbage, the White Beam Tree, the Horseshoe Vetch, the Helleborine, and many Hawkweeds. The sea cliffs favour Sea Kale, the Tree Mallow, the Rock Samphire, the Wild Beet, and others. Then there is a strand association just above high-water mark, consisting of a community of characteristic plants like the Sea Sandwort, the Sea Plantain, the Sea Stork's-bill, and the Sea Holly. There is also a Sand-dune fraternity with Maram as the characteristic grass, which tends to bind the loose sand together. Lastly, cultivated fields give a great variety of those weeds of cultivation which fail to find a footing on the close sward or the rock ledges. It is interesting to notice how the Limestone plants cease to appear in the Deganwy district, where the rocks are of Ordovician origin.”

A feature of the flora of the Great Orme is the comparatively large number of plants formerly in repute for medicinal purposes. It has been suggested that their presence may be due to their having been cultivated in the gardens of Gogarth Abbey.

The Fern Flora of the district is relatively poor in comparison with the flowering plants. One of its members is the Sea Spleenwort, which may be found on the cliffs facing the sea.

A Geological Note.

The geology of the district can be dealt with here only on the broadest lines. The principal rock in the vicinity

of Llandudno is *Carboniferous Limestone*, either exposed or covered with a thin coating of derived soil. It occurs in the Great Orme's Head, the Little Orme's Head, a ridge that runs from the latter towards the estuary of the Conway, and a second ridge running parallel to the first. Between the ridges is *Millstone Grit*. The limestone also occurs in the high ground beyond Colwyn Bay, in the ridges of Flintshire beyond Rhyl, in Puffin Island, and in places along the Menai Strait. Elsewhere in the district the rocks are of the Silurian period. On the low ground the soil is mostly sand and shingle, and these, on the lowland on which Llandudno is mainly situated, cover Silurian and Ordovician Rocks.

Once more to quote Professor Phillips :—

“ On the slopes throughout the district there are considerable accumulations of glacial drift. Indeed, the whole district, in the rounded contour of the heights, as well as in the frequent appearance of boulder clay, exhibits unmistakable evidence of severe glaciation, the chief agent having been, according to current geological opinion, a great glacier originating in the mountains of Cumberland, which crossed the area now occupied by the Irish Sea, and striking the Welsh coast somewhere in this region, was diverted towards the west, where it planed down the surface of Anglesey and helped to furrow out the Menai Strait.”

IN AND ABOUT LLANDUDNO.

L LANDUDNO has been laid out with fine wide streets. The general direction of one set is parallel to the line of Llandudno Bay, and these are connected by another set crossing them at right angles. The **Railway Station**, planned on first-class lines and erected at a cost of £50,000, is nearly 400 yards from the Promenade, and three times that distance from the West Parade on Conway Bay. The major portion of the town lies between the Station and the Great Orme.

From the Station the visitor passes into **Augusta Street**, part of the third thoroughfare which runs through the town parallel to the principal sea-front. At right angles to it is **Vaughan Street**, with one end facing the station, the other on the sea-front. About halfway down Vaughan Street is the **Mostyn Art Gallery**, built by Lady Augusta Mostyn for the development of arts and crafts within the town and neighbourhood and opened in 1902. Classes are held, and occasionally there are exhibitions.

Adjoining is the **Chief Post Office**, an attractive and spacious building.

To the right and left of the lower end of Vaughan Street extends a series of fine terraces of marine residences, practically all hotels or boarding-houses. Immediately in front is the **Parade**, consisting of a wide carriage-road and a paved side-walk, and between the road and the beach is one of the finest esplanades in the Kingdom.

The Promenade

is 90 feet wide and over $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. It is asphalted, furnished with seats throughout the entire length and dotted with shelters of handsome design. "Church Parade" along this magnificent stretch in the height of the season is a sight to be remembered. The Promenade and shelters are illuminated at night by electric light, and are so bright that visitors



Skater.]

THE ESPLANADE, LLANDUDNO.

[Darlington,



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

[Reigate.

LLANDUDNO PIER.



Slater,]

[Darlington.

THE MARINE DRIVE, GREAT ORME'S HEAD.

take their books and evening papers to read while listening to the band. For the convenience of invalids and others who desire to regulate the amount of their daily exercise, the promenade has been marked off into quarter-mile distances.

The Beach

which forms the shore of the beautiful bay, some two miles in length, in front of the town, is composed of smooth, firm sand, so that it is both an admirable playground for children and a pleasant bathing ground. The ebb and flow of the tide are so gradual that the most timid may bathe without fear. (Strong swimmers may bathe from below the Marine Drive near the Pigeons' Cave, and from the lower deck of the Pier Head before 9 a.m.)

In the season sand castle competitions, regattas, processions of illuminated boats, and other special attractions are arranged for the benefit of visitors.

At the western extremity of the bay is—

The Pier.

Admission.—Each person, 3*d.* After 6 p.m., except Saturdays, 8*d.*, which covers admission to the concert in the Pavilion. On Saturday evenings to high-class concerts, 1*s.* 3*d.* On Sunday evenings there is a concert at 8.15. One or two children charged as an adult. Weekly and season tickets can be obtained.

Perambulator and attendant, 4*d.* Bath chair, occupant and attendant, 6*d.* Bath chair and attendant only, 4*d.* Each person landing at Pier Head without a boat ticket, 6*d.* Bicycles to and from steamers, 3*d.*

The Pier is a handsome iron structure, nearly 800 yards long. Steamboat passengers can land or embark at any state of the tide. On the Pier are kiosks for the sale of fruit, refreshments, sweets, newspapers, books, views, and other articles. Every morning during the season from Easter to October an orchestra of forty performers gives a free concert at the spacious pier-head, where there is sitting accommodation for 2,000 persons and where a spacious shelter with movable sides has been erected for use in wet weather. During the afternoons and evenings performances are given by pierrots.

The view inland from the Pier is very pleasant. The most prominent of the mountains that are seen rising in the distance is Foel Fras, at the head of the Aber Glen. To the left of this is Tal-y-Fan, in the rear of the Conway

mountains, and still more to the left is Pen-llithrig-y-Wrach, some three miles short of Capel Curig.

The Pavilion

is a fine structure near the upper end of the Parade, under the shelter of the Great Orme's Head. It is built of stone, iron, and glass, and is capable of seating nearly 4,000 persons. The band gives a morning performance in the main hall during inclement weather, while nightly during the season a concert is given.

In the basement of the Pavilion, known as the **Pier Theatre of Varieties**, cinematograph exhibitions and variety entertainments are given. Adjoining the Pavilion are tea and refreshment rooms.

Towards the eastern end of the Promenade are the **Hippodrome**, used for roller skating, the **Arcadian**, and the **Grand Theatre**.

The last is entered from **Mostyn Broadway**, which lies between Mostyn Avenue and Mostyn Street, the three together forming the first great inland thoroughfare running parallel to the Promenade. It is part of the route of the electric tramway which runs from Conway Bay, or the West Shore, to Colwyn Bay.

Mostyn Street,

of great width, and lined with excellent shops and other imposing buildings, is Llandudno's principal thoroughfare. Starting at the Vaughan Street end and following it towards the Great Orme, we soon come to **Holy Trinity Church**, a fine edifice in the Transition style. It consists of a nave with aisles, transepts and a spacious chancel, and was erected mainly for the accommodation of visitors.

Next, on the right, is **St. John's English Wesleyan Church**, a commodious building erected in 1865. Then almost immediately on the left, is the **English Baptist Chapel**, a commanding structure with a Greek portico. Nearly adjacent is—

The Public Library,

a handsome building opened in 1910. Towards the cost of erection Mr. Andrew Carnegie gave £4,000. Lord Mostyn

and Mr. John Walker were two other principal benefactors. The design is in a free Renaissance style. Externally, Cefn freestone has been used ; internally Bath stone and fibrous plaster have been employed. Entrance is gained through a circular porch and vestibule leading into a circular hall which gives access to the lending department, reference room, newspaper and magazine rooms and the ladies' reading-room. On the first floor is a lecture room occupying the whole front of the building and fitted for lantern displays. The commodious rooms also include one which is to contain the nucleus of a museum. Already many interesting objects have been secured.

Passing on, we come to the break caused by **Lloyd Street**, which runs inland from the sea-front towards the cricket and tennis grounds and the bowling-green and contains various public buildings. A few yards above Mostyn Street is—

The Town Hall,

a substantial structure standing on a site presented by Lord Mostyn in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The foundation-stone was laid in 1899. The design is English Renaissance. Portland stone has been used for the lower part of the exterior, and red bricks with Portland stone dressings for the upper portion. At the chief entrance is a semi-circular Doric portico. Within, in front of the entrance, is the great Public Hall, having accommodation for over 800 persons. The principal apartment on the first floor is the **Council Chamber**, a beautiful hall in which marble and walnut have been largely employed. Committee rooms and the Town Clerk's and other offices are also upon the first floor. Additional offices are provided upon the floor above.

Just beyond the Town Hall is the **Welsh Wesleyan Chapel**. On the same side, farther up the street, is the **Welsh Congregational Church**. Nearly opposite is the **Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary**, and higher up is the **Lifeboat House**.

Continuing along Mostyn Street, we pass the Prince's Theatre, seating 700, now a cinematograph hall. Then, on the left, is a narrow thoroughfare leading to the **Public Market**.

Gloddaeth Street and its continuation, **Gloddaeth Avenue**,

together form a thoroughfare of which the town is rightly proud. It runs in a straight line from the shore of Llandudno Bay to the West Parade, on the shore of Conway Bay. It is exceptionally wide, affording ample space for the tramcars that pass along it, and for the rows of trees with which the upper portion is adorned. On the western side, a short distance above Mostyn Street, is the **Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel**, the most imposing in appearance of the many fine places of worship belonging to local Nonconformists.

Mostyn Street goes westward of Gloddaeth Street, past the Welsh Baptist Chapel, at the corner of Llewelyn Street, to Church Walks. Near its termination is the Police Station, and from it one may pass along Hill Terrace to the Happy Valley and St. Tudno's Church.

By proceeding to the left along **Church Walks**, we reach the station of—

The Great Orme Tramway.

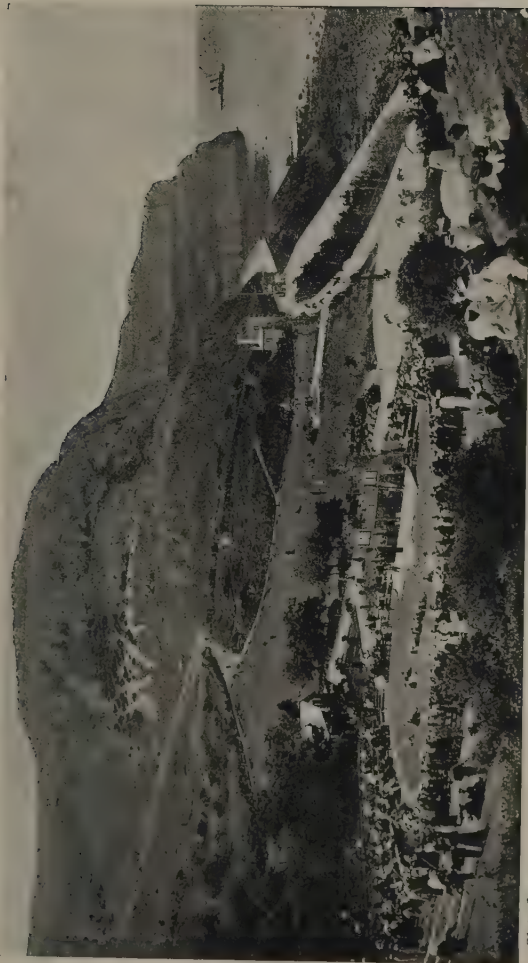
Fare, 8*d.* single, 1*s.* return. Weekly ticket, 5*s.*; monthly, 1*os.* 6*d.*; season £1. First tram up, 9.20 a.m.; last down, 6.30 p.m., or 7.50 p.m., July and August.

The lower end of the Cable Tramway up Great Orme's Head was opened in 1902, the upper section a year later. Halfway up is the power-house, containing the engines which work the drums on which the cables are wound or from which they are uncoiled, as the cars are hauled up or let down the headland. The cables are of plough steel with a hemp core, and are tested to a point much in excess of the working strain. The brakes are extremely powerful. In addition to those in ordinary use, there are emergency brakes, as required by the Board of Trade. About 85,000 persons use the Tramway every year. The total length of the line is about 1½ miles. Near the upper terminus is a quarry, known as the **Bishop's** or **Fossil Quarry**, from the great number of beautiful fossils it contains. At the top are the **Golf Links** and a modern and commodious Hotel, from the terrace of which a splendid view is gained in clear weather.

A little beyond the Tramway station, but on the opposite side of Church Walks is—

St. George's Church,

which has superseded St. Tudno's as the **Parish Church**.



Slater,]

THE HAPPY VALLEY, LLANDUDNO.

[Darlington.



Slater.]

ST. TUDNO'S CHURCH.

[Darlington,

It is a plain building in the Early English style, dating from 1840 and seating 450 persons.

By Church Walks and the upper end of **Abbey Road** one may pass from the immediate vicinity of the Pier to—

The West Shore or Conway Bay.

The fine scenery here includes the mountains of Snowdonia. The stranger who first makes acquaintance with the spot when the tide is up must wonder why the town turned its back, as it were, upon such a scene. A little later the reason is obvious. The water retires to a much greater distance here than in the other bay, leaving a large expanse of sand and mud interspersed with pools of water. But even so there are many popular seaside resorts that would suffer by comparison. It is not surprising, therefore, that this part of the town is being rapidly developed, and valuable residential property is springing up all round.

Between the ends of Abbey Road and Gloddaeth Avenue is a **Model Yacht Pond**. To the left is the gorse-covered warren that extends to Deganwy and contains the fine **Golf Links** of the North Wales Club. To the right is the entrance to the Marine Drive round the Great Orme. Close to the entrance is the commencement of the footpath known as the **Invalids' Walk**, which skirts the slope of the Headland and commands fine views of the town and the plain beyond, as well as of the heights of the Snowdonian range.

Near the entrance to the Golf Links stands the **Church of Our Saviour**, on the very spot on which "Lewis Carroll," (the Rev. C. H. Dodgson) the creator of *Alice in Wonderland*, used to amuse his child friends. In the building he is commemorated by the alabaster font.

Now let us pass from Llandudno's streets and shores to neighbouring spots that contribute in no small degree to the popularity of the town as a holiday resort. Proceeding past the Pier Pavilion, we take a footpath that goes off on the left, and in a few minutes reach—

The Happy Valley,

a pleasure-ground nestling in a hollow of the Great Orme and presented to the town by Lord Mostyn, the Lord of the Manor, as a memorial of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

North Wales (g)

The Valley has rightly been described as "a veritable amphitheatre of loveliness," with its grassy slopes and grand sea and mountain views in all directions. It is plentifully supplied with seats and is tastefully laid out with lawns, rockeries, shrubs and flowers. So sheltered is the Happy Valley that its roses are usually in full bloom until December. During the season part of the ground is appropriated by a first-class troupe of minstrels, who often have around them an audience numbering thousands. The Happy Valley is a favourite resort of lady visitors, especially those who have the care of children.

In the centre of the ground is a drinking fountain, the gift of Lady Augusta Mostyn.

Adjoining this resort is another large public pleasure ground, acquired by the local authority partly by the purchase of the Wyddfyd estate in 1911 and partly through the generosity of Lord Mostyn, who in 1912 gave the town a large adjacent tract. The area comprises a tract above the Happy Valley proper, the slopes on either side and the hill known as **Pen-y-Dinas**. This eminence is easily accessible and commands a magnificent view of the town and its shores. It is also of much historical interest, as it is believed to be the site of a British fortress. There are the remains of an encircling wall of great thickness and a large number of circular cavities, about 12 feet in diameter, edged with stones. When the plans of the District Council have been fully carried out Llandudno will have one of the most attractive public pleasure grounds in the kingdom.

Another of Llandudno's assets is—

The Marine Drive.

Tolls.—Cyclists, 1*d.* ; motor cycles, with or without sidecar, 3*d.* ; saddle horses, 3*d.* ; carriages, 6*d.* per horse ; private motor-cars, 1*s.*
Chars-a-bancs run morning and afternoon, starting from the Promenade end of Gloddaeth Street. Fare, 1*s.* 6*d.*

This fine roadway, encircling the Great Orme, may be reached by following the Parade past the Pier Pavilion and the Grand Hotel, or by crossing the Happy Valley. It was completed in 1879, at a cost of £14,000, and was owned by a private company until 1897, when it was purchased by the Urban District Council, which in 1910 abolished the toll for pedestrians. The number of foot-passengers who made use of the Drive during the previous year was upwards of

80,000, so that in making it free to foot-passengers the Council relinquished a sum equal to nearly a penny in the £ on the rates. At each end is a toll-house. The distance between is $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and the total circuit of the Head measures nearly six miles.

The road was formed by cutting away the precipitous limestone rock. It is well protected by a wide parapet. At some points the passenger is high above the sea, and looks sheer down into the glittering water; at others he descends and passes under almost overhanging cliffs. These variations of altitude add greatly to the scenic beauty of the Drive.

For the sake of the view of Conway town and bay, it is advisable to start from the Pier end of the Drive. Setting out in this direction we soon pass the Happy Valley, on the left, near the castellated toll-house. Having reached the north-east corner of the promontory, we may get a view eastward of the Clwydian mountains and of the coast in the vicinity of Rhyl. Continuing our course, we come to a path that leads up to the *Farm Inn*, and a little farther (a mile from the toll-house) is a new road to St. Tudno's Church, situated but a short distance above.

About halfway round the Orme is the castellated **Great Orme Head Lighthouse** (open to visitors on week-days upon permission being obtained from the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, Liverpool). It is a solidly built structure crowning a steep precipice at a height of over 300 feet. Its lamp is dioptric, with a light of 18,500 candle-power. The beams are visible on the sea for a distance of 24 miles, and, under suitable atmospheric conditions, are clearly discernible from Snaefell, in the Isle of Man, 54 miles away. The beacon is situated at the point of the Head, and in the cliff below is the **Llech**, or **Hiding Cave**, one of several caverns in the face of the promontory. In describing the fine prospect from this spot, Bishop How, of Wakefield, wrote: "A scene more gloriously wild and solitary can scarcely be gained at so small expense of trouble. Before you is the sea, beneath you the grand cliffs against which the sea is swelling and moaning, and foaming, and lashing everlastingly. Around you is a wild, wide stretch of splendid barrenness: a treeless expanse of grey rock ledges and mossy turf, and low weather-beaten gorse bushes. Such a place for drinking in

gladdening, health-giving draughts of the pure air of heaven ! ”

On reaching the western side of the promontory the view is magnificent. Anglesey, Puffin Island, the Menai Strait, the Snowdonian Mountains, the river Conway, Conway Castle and Bridges, etc., form a grand panorama. From this point the Drive gradually slopes down to the Conway shore toll-gate, shortly before reaching which the scanty ruins of **Gogarth Abbey** are passed. They are situated on a narrow strip of cultivated land, and consist chiefly of the remains of a chimney stack, fragments of walls, and some traces of foundations. Enough, however, is left to show that the edifice was of considerable note ; and discoveries of human bones have sufficed to indicate the spot that was used as a burial-ground. The building is supposed to have been at one time the residence of the Bishops of Bagnor. Its glory must have departed at a very early date, for it was in ruins when visited by Leland, the historian and topographer, in the reign of Henry VIII. The ruins are less than a mile from the termination of the Drive. The shortest route to them from the town is by way of Abbey Road.

Outside the west gate of the Drive stands the *Gogarth Abbey Hotel*, on the site of what was the residence of Dean Liddell. It is said that here “ Lewis Carroll ” wrote *Alice in Wonderland* ; and we can readily believe that the Walrus and the Carpenter in *Alice in the Looking Glass* “ wept like anything to see such quantities of sand ” where are now the Golf Links. Having gone round the Head from the Happy Valley entrance, the town is re-entered by Abbey Road and Church Walks at the top of Mostyn Street, or by the pleasanter Invalids’ Walk, which begins on the left from the Toll House.

St. Tudno’s Church.

Open from 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. daily.

On Sundays brakes run from the coach-office, Queen’s Hotel Gardens at 9.40 a.m., returning at 12.40 p.m. Return fare, 1s. 6d. ; single, 1s.

St. Tudno’s Church can be approached by way of the Marine Drive, from which there is a road to it a few yards past the stone “ 1 mile from the lodge.” It can also be approached by a path from the Happy Valley, or by following the road running up from Church Walks. St. Tudno’s was formerly the parish church of Llandudno, and in bygone

days was the only place of worship in the neighbourhood. Service was held only on a Sunday afternoon, and was conducted by a clergyman who, with his clerk, walked over from Conway, and in the winter months those two were frequently the only attendants. Now, during summer months, divine service is held in the church, or in the churchyard when the weather is suitable, every Sunday at eleven o'clock in the morning and at six in the evening.

The Church is an object of considerable interest to visitors. It is said to stand on the site of the cell of St. Tudno, who lived in the sixth century. The west end of the north wall is thought to be a portion of a church erected in the eleventh or twelfth century, but the rest of the old work belongs to the fifteenth century. In 1839 the roof was stripped off by a storm, the building being so much injured that no attempt was made to repair it, but, instead, St. George's Church was erected on a site more accessible to the townspeople. St. Tudno's lay in a neglected and ruinous condition until 1855, when it was restored by Mr. H. Reece, of Birmingham, as a thankoffering for his daughter's restoration to health. In 1907 a further restoration was effected.

The building is oblong, with a gable turret for one bell, a low, arched entrance on the west, and a porch on the north, with an aperture for a single light. Its interior measurement is 67 feet by 16½. The chancel was at one time separated from the nave by a carved screen, with rood-loft, which must have been elaborately worked, judging from the few fragments still in existence. The chief objects of interest in the interior are an ancient circular font (once carried away and used as a pump-trough) and two incised coffin lids of the thirteenth century. The slabs have been placed vertically on the south wall, as the masonry was too weak to allow of niches or recesses being cut for them to lie in a horizontal position. They possess such elegance of design as to show that they belonged to persons of at least noble birth.

The churchyard was considerably enlarged in 1872. One grave, which attracts great attention, is that of the youthful son of John Bright, who died at Llandudno in 1864, and shortly before his death expressed a wish to be buried near the old parish church. His resting-place is marked by a small and simple stone bearing the following inscription:—

In Loving Remembrance of

Leonard Bright,

(Son of John Bright, M.P., and Margaret Elizabeth, his wife,
Aged nearly 6 years.

“And there shall be one fold and one shepherd.”

To reach the grave, follow the path alongside the wall on the north (the seaward side) of the Church. It is in the second row, a few yards farther west than the Church.

Adjoining the old churchyard, is the Public Cemetery, opened in 1903.

A little to the left of the Church stands the old **Rectory**, known as *Dolfechan*.

There still remain a few words to be said respecting—

The Great Orme.

It was, without doubt, at one time an island, and at present is joined to the mainland only by the neck of land on which Llandudno is built. It consists of alternate beds of chert and limestone, uniformly dipping from every side to a common centre, where a deposit of copper ore is embedded.

Above St. Tudno's Church there are three deserted mines, namely, Ty Gwyn, the Old Mine and the New Mine, and less than a hundred years ago ore to the value of a quarter of a million sterling was raised annually. The discovery of stone hammers and bone augers in ancient workings is held to indicate that the ore was obtained by the Britons prior to the Roman invasion, as the Roman tools were of iron or of bronze.

The cliffs are very abrupt, and hollowed by the action of the sea into various caverns, in whose secure recesses multitudes of gulls, cormorants, herons, razorbills, ravens and rock-pigeons make their abode. Many of these caves are quite inaccessible, but some may be examined from the sea. The most curious is that called **Llech** (the Hiding Cave), situated at the point of the promontory. It is square in shape, the sides about $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length and 10 feet in height. It is said to have been fitted up as a grotto or pleasure-house by an ancestor of the present owner of the Mostyn estate. A short distance southward is the **Hornby Cave**, named after a brig that was wrecked off the Point on New Year's Day, 1824, with the loss of all the crew except one, who chanced to be upon the bowsprit when the vessel struck the Great Orme, and was flung by the concussion upon a narrow ledge of rock, from which he succeeded in climbing to the top of the precipice. Eastward of the Hiding Cave is the **Gulf Cave**, or *Ogof Hafnant*. Some considerable distance farther eastward is **Ogof Colomenod** (the Pigeons' Cave), accessible at low water,

and a little way farther east is the **Dutchman's Cave**. How this last came by its name is unknown.

A short distance westward of the Pigeons' Cave is the **Steward's Bench**, a flat stone ledge covered at high water to the depth of about two feet. Tradition says that any steward of the Mostyn estates convicted of wronging a tenant was placed upon the ledge and was compelled to remain there during two tides.

At the time of the construction of the Marine Drive a cave that lay in the route and had to be destroyed was inhabited by a happy couple and their progeny. It had been their home for nearly half a century, and there they had born to them fifteen children, whom they reared successfully. The couple were substantially compensated for relinquishing possession of the cave and the ground about it, and went to live in a cottage just above the entrance to the residence in the grounds of which the ruins of Gogarth Abbey are situated. The man died about sixteen years after his removal. His widow, known as Miriam yr Ogo, or Miriam of the Cave, among the Welsh people of the locality, celebrated her ninety-first birthday on July 14, 1910, and was then hearty and in full possession of her mental powers, but she died in the following month.

Not far from St. Tudno's Church are the remnants of a **Stone Circle**, and to the right of that relic are the remains of an avenue of upright stones in the shape of the letter L.

Above the Happy Valley is the eminence called **Pen-y-Dinas**, to which reference has already been made. Near it is a displaced rocking-stone called **Tudno's Cradle**.

Just above the Tramline halfway station is a **Cromlech** (Llety-y-filiast), and near the upper terminus is the **Bishop's Quarry**, a treasure house for geologists, being crowded with beautiful fossils.

The highest point of the Great Orme is 679 feet above the level of the sea, and is close to the old Semaphore Station, where will now be found the *Great Orme Hotel*. In making his way from the Happy Valley to this point, or to St. Tudno's Church, the visitor comes to the *Farm Inn* on the right, and the *Old Farm* on the left. He should take the path past the former for the Church, but make for the latter if bound for the summit. Presently a gate opens on a path that affords a short cut to the Old Farm (where refreshments can be obtained) and to the summit, from which there is a glorious view in all directions. In clear weather the Isle of Man and the Cumberland hills may be discerned, and in the opposite direction a number of the most famous

Welsh mountains are seen. A map indicates the position and distance of the principal landmarks visible.

Extending westward from the summit are the **Great Orme Golf Links**.

The direct route over the Great Orme starts from the Church Walks by Ty-gwyn Road, or by the Old Road, or from the far upper corner of the Happy Valley.

Little Orme's Head.

Brakes.—Fare, 1s. each.

Omnibuses at short intervals from the Pier to Craigside and Craig-y-don. Fare, 2d.

The Little Orme, at the eastern extremity of Llandudno Bay, although less imposing than the larger headland, has features of much interest. It is about 200 feet lower than the Great Orme, being only 463 feet above the level of the sea, but the views from the summit are extensive and delightful, and the cliffs are much finer than those of the loftier headland, some having a sheer height of 300 feet. It is composed of limestone, in which a number of caverns have been formed by the waves. The best known are the **Eglwys Wen** (Whitchurch), **Porth Diniweid** (the Innocents' Gate), and **Ogof Cythreuliaid** (the Devils' Cave). The last-named is large enough to allow a boat to be rowed into it at high tide.

The low rocks near the cliffs are a rich hunting-ground for naturalists and others. Mussels, whelks, limpets, starfish and innumerable other creatures abound, as do also beautiful seaweeds.

The walk round the headland is easy and pleasant, and can be accomplished in a couple of hours or less. Follow the road along the shore until it ascends between the Little Orme and Mynydd Pentre (pentre=village), and there take the path leading to the headland. For the sake of the view the complete circuit should be made, but the greatest care should be exercised, because the cliffs are precipitous and many fatal accidents have occurred.

For an easy means of ascent the road that goes eastward from the Parade to the Craigside Hydro should be followed. Just after passing the Hydro, take a path that will be seen leading up the slope. By following it and keeping to the left, the summit is soon reached, and then the beautiful view of mountain and sea more than compensates for the toil of the climb.

The prospect from the cairn on the summit includes Moel

Fammau, the highest point of the Clwydian range, with the tower of St. Asaph Cathedral and the lofty white spire of Bodelwyddan Church in front of it. Then to the right are Penmaenmawr, and the Isle of Anglesey. Nearer are the Gloddaeth Woods, with Conway Castle behind them; and in the rear of that are Pen-llithrig-y-wrach to the left, and Foel Fras and Carnedd Llewelyn to the right. On a clear day there may be seen far away in the south the peak of Arenig-fawr, near Bala.

About 90 feet from the summit is a small cave called *Ty-yn-y-graig*—"the house in the rock"—which, tradition says, was used as a hiding-place by a priest suspected of being the organiser of a plot against the Protestants of the neighbourhood some 350 years ago.

The Pughs of Penrhyn did not accept the doctrines of the Reformers at the time of the Reformation, but remained Roman Catholics and maintained a priest who officiated for them and for those of their neighbours who were of the same faith.

According to the story, a plot was formed to put to death all the Protestants in the peninsula. Shortly before its accomplishment, one of the maids disclosed the plot to her sweetheart, who in turn communicated it to his master at Gloddaeth, with the result that Penrhyn was invested by a troop of horse. Some of the inmates were taken prisoners, but others escaped, among them being the priest, who eluded the strict search that was made for him. One day, however, some boatmen, when out at sea, observed smoke rising from Little Orme. Being unable to account for it, their curiosity was excited. They hastened to the spot, and were led by the smoke to the cave now known as *Ty-yn-y-graig*. There they found the priest, whom they apprehended. He was delivered up to justice, and after the barbarous practice of that time was hanged, drawn and quartered.

OTHER SHORT WALKS.

1. **To Gloddaeth**, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Of the many pleasant walks in the immediate neighbourhood of Llandudno that which lies through the woods of Gloddaeth is one of the most delightful. Although there is no timber of unusual size, the trees generally have a remarkable aspect of antiquity.

Follow the Conway Road (the thoroughfare left of the Post Office) as far as the Church of Llanrhos ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and then turn to the left by a footpath across the fields.

The **Church of Llanrhos** (Eglwys Rhos) is reputed to be very ancient, and to have been in its glory in the time of Prince Maelgwyn Gwynedd, an important personage in Welsh history. He belonged to the sixth century, and is said to have died in Llanrhos Church, to which he had fled

in the vain hope of escaping the yellow pestilence. The Church is the burial-place of the Mostyn family.

Gloddaeth Hall, one of the old residences of the Mostyns, is not shown to the public. Part of the building dates from 1584. On the daïs of the great hall are the arms of Queen Elizabeth and the Earl of Leicester. In the reception hall is some antique furniture, and over the fireplace is the family motto, "Heb Dduw, he ddim, Duw a digon," of which the English is "Without God, without all; God and plenty." In the centre of the hall are the Tudor arms and the words, "God save our Queene Elizabeth, send her long reign, 1584."

2. **"My Grandmother's Chair."** A seat formed of two large flat stones a few hundred yards to the north of Gloddaeth Woods. Follow the shore road past the Hydro until Nant-y-gamar Road is reached, and then the route lies along that.

To reach the seat from Gloddaeth Woods, make for an old mill on the hill, bear to the left round the wood until a farmhouse comes in sight on the road below, and then walk to the right. The stones will be found on the slope of the hill.

3. **To Bodysgallen**, one of the residences of the Mostyn family. It is pleasantly situated on a hill near Llanrhos. The first builder is said to have been Caswallon, Prince of North Wales, in the fifth century. Permission to view is very rarely given. The shortest route from Llandudno, 2½ miles, is along the Conway Road as far as the second turning on the left past Eglwys Rhos.

4. **To Ffridd**, or Quarry Hill. This is easily accessible, and though only 350 feet in height commands probably the finest view in the neighbourhood. Proceed through the wood at Bodysgallen, and passing out through the upper gate, turn to the right for a short distance, and then take the first turn to the left (by a lane leading to the village of Pydew.) Opposite the first cottage on the left is a gate which gives access to the green slope by which you reach the top of the hill in about three minutes.

5. **To Penrhyn**. This was for several centuries the seat of the family of Pugh. After being reduced to a common farmhouse, it was for several years used for the exhibition of antiquities. It is now a private residence and is no longer open to the public. It stands to the right of the tramway route between the Little Orme and Llandrillo.

A story connected with Penrhyn has already been told. Another tradition concerning it is that some two or three centuries ago, at a time when the family consisted of a son and two daughters, the former went on his travels abroad. Before setting out he secretly placed a needle between one of the joists and the ceiling in the kitchen, and also drove the tooth of a harrow into a pear-tree in the orchard, so that he might establish his identity, if by any mischance his return was delayed until he had grown out of knowledge. Years passed without word of him, and at length his friends and relatives ceased to expect his return. His parents died, and his sisters entered into possession of the property. Then one day a man utterly destitute arrived at the house, and claimed to be the rightful heir. He went to the kitchen and took the needle from its long resting-place; he went to the orchard and showed the hidden harrow tooth. The ladies whom he called his sisters, however, refused to acknowledge him. They denounced him as an impostor, had him ejected from the house and whipped off the farm. A cottager to whom he appealed believed his story, professed to recognize him, and gave him food and shelter. One day the claimant went out from the cottage, and was never seen again. What became of him was a mystery. But 150 years later the then tenant of Penrhyn, while building a lime-kiln, found a skeleton, supposed to be that of the outcast, in a fissure of the rock immediately behind the house. The estate had passed into the hands of strangers, for the old family concerned with the tradition had decayed, and in its downfall the country people saw the working of the curse that had followed the dispossession and murder of the wandering heir.

6. **To Deganwy**, 2 miles. The best route is from the foot of Gloddaeth Avenue, thence, either across the Golf Links or along the fine expanse of sand exposed at low tide. The town is described in another section.

EXCURSIONS FROM LLANDUDNO.

AS a centre for excursions by rail, road or water, Llandudno has few rivals.

On the trains between Llandudno and Bettws-y-Coed and Blaenau Festiniog, and from Llandudno to Llanberis (for Snowdon), there are *Observation Cars*—rare on British Railways. The seats are arranged to allow a central aisle, and the upper part of the sides of the carriage consists of plate glass panels. An official travelling guide describes places and objects of interest as they are passed.

Powerful motor coaches, built specially for the district, enable Llandudno's visitors to run through charming scenery to beauty spots 50 or 60 miles distant and to return in time to dress for dinner. Splendidly horsed coaches also offer facilities for the more leisurely enjoyment of the scenery of the neighbourhood, while well-equipped steamboats daily offer trips that rival in popularity the excursions on land.

The only way to ensure getting seats on the coaches in the height of the season is to book in advance. Should the weather prove unfavourable the tickets will be transferred to another day without extra charge. As from time to time there are made such additions, omissions and variations as seem desirable to the proprietors of the coaches and cars, the programmes given below are only intended for the general information of the reader. They give approximately all needful particulars, but for precise details reference should be made to current advertisements of the tours.

Coach Tours.

Llandudno Loop Tour, embracing Bettws-y-Coed, Swallow Falls, Capel Curig, Ogwen Lake, Nant Ffrancon Pass, Bethesda, Bangor, Penmaenmawr and Conway, 56 miles.

Bettws-y-Coed, 42 miles, *viâ* Trefriw.

Penmaenmawr, *viâ* Sychnant Pass, twice daily, 20 miles.

Colwyn Bay, *viâ* the Little Orme and returning *viâ* Deganwy, twice daily, 15 miles.

Bodnant Hall, Tuesdays and Saturdays only, 20 miles.

Aber Waterfalls, Wednesdays and Fridays only, 28 miles.

New Short Loop, embracing Tal-y-Cafn, Roe Wen, Gyffin and Conway, 20 miles.

Char-à-banc Drives.—There are also drives at moderate prices round the Great Orme's Head; round the Little Orme's Head; to Conway and back, 8 miles; to Glan Conway *viâ* Llanrhos, past Gloddaeth Hall and Marl Hall and along the banks of the Conway, 12 miles.

Motor Tours,

by the "Silver," the "Royal Red," "Royal Blue," and other coaches, comprise the following—

Criccieth and Pwllheli, *viâ* Bettws-y-Coed, Capel Curig, Nant Gwynant Pass, Beddgelert and Aberglaslyn Pass, 115 miles.

Llangollen and Corwen, *viâ* Vale of Clwyd, 115 miles.

Aberglaslyn Loop and Beddgelert, *viâ* Carnarvon and Bangor, 96 miles.

Corwen Loop, *viâ* Denbigh, Ruthin and Corwen, 96 miles.

Llanberis and Snowdon, allowing time at Llanberis to ascend Snowdon by the Mountain Railway, 76 miles.

Bethesda Loop, *viâ* Capel Curig and Nant Ffrancon Pass, 56 miles.

Afternoon Mountain Loop, *viâ* Abergele, Gwyrch Castle, Llangerniew, Llanrwst and Vale of Conway, 56 miles.

Marble Church, St. Asaph and Rhuddlan Castle, 50 miles.

Bettws-y-Coed, *viâ* Trefriw and Llanwrst, 42 miles.

Bettws-y-Coed, Swallow Falls or Fairy Glen, 42 miles.

Menai Bridge, 45 miles.

Gwydyr Castle and Trefriw Spa, 37 miles.

Aber Lake and Waterfalls, 35 miles.

Lledr Valley, *viâ* Festiniog, Aberglaslyn and Gwynant Passes, 105 miles.

Llangollen, *viâ* Berwyn Hills and Valle Crucis Abbey, 115 miles.

Bala Lake, *viâ* Ruthin, Denbigh and Pentre Voelas, 120 miles.

Circular Tour round Snowdon, *viâ* Beddgelert, Llanberis and Menai Bridge, 100 miles.

Barmouth and Harlech Loop, 145 miles.

Criccieth, Pwllheli, Llangollen, Valle Crucis Abbey, Corwen, Barmouth, Bala Lake and notable spots in their immediate neighbourhood are described in our *Guide to the Southern Section of North Wales*. A description of the other points of interest on the Motor Coach Tours can be found by means of the index.

TO AND FROM BETTWS-Y-COED.

The first portion of the route is along the Conway Road and passes Llanrhos, about half a mile to the left of which is Gloddaeth Hall. On ascending a hill, just after leaving Llanrhos, there is one of the most delightful views in the neighbourhood. Its principal features are a stretch of the winding Conway river, the little farms on either bank of the stream, the mountains that rise on both sides, and the town of Conway with its picturesque Castle and bridges.

In due time the coach crosses the graceful Suspension Bridge and passes under the walls of Conway Castle to get to the high-road along the western side of the river. Half a mile from the town we pass through the village of **Gyffin**, the birthplace of Dr. Richard Davies, Bishop first of St. Asaph and then of St. Davids (1561), eminent for his scholarship, and one of the translators of the Bible into Welsh. Beyond the village the road is uphill for a mile or so, and opens out lovely scenery. A little to the right are the green slopes of *Tal-y-Fan* (2,000 feet). Behind them are the summits of *Drum* (2,528) and *Foel Fras* (3,091), but a short distance apart, and in the far distance are *Carnedd Llewelyn* (3,484), the highest summit in Wales next to Snowdon, and *Pen-Llithrig-y-Wrach* (2,621), the former about in a line with Trefriw, the latter rather more to the south of the village and to the left of Carnedd Llewelyn.

In this part of the route the river Conway is hidden by the hill of **Benarth**, and its tortuous course does not come into full view until Conway town has been left some two miles behind.

After passing through the village of **Tyn-y-Groes** we pass near the pretty little church of **Caerhûn**, on the site of the ancient *Conovium*. That the Romans had an important station here is shown by interesting relics brought to light from time to time. In 1801 the foundation of a Roman villa was discovered; and subsequently there have been found articles of Roman pottery, a small round shield, and other objects telling of the Roman occupation. From here a Roman road leads to Aber, through the mountain pass of Bwlch-y-Ddeufaen. In the churchyard is an enormous holly tree, the trunk of which is 9 feet in circumference.

Caerhûn is five miles from Conway. A little farther we

pass through **Tal-y-Bont**, close to which may be seen the stream that comes down from Llyn Dulyn and Melyn Llyn, which supply Llandudno with its water. The pretty hamlet of Tal-y-Bont is a favourite resort of artists.

As we proceed southward the mountains close in on the river, and the view becomes more and more circumscribed. We pass the **Porthlwyd** and **Dolgarrog Falls**, and see, high up on the right, the Pump Room of the Chalybeate Wells. Soon we reach **Trefriw**, where a halt is made. The village is prettily situated some $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road from Conway, and is a centre from which many pleasant excursions can be made. It is fully described in another part of this book.

Leaving Trefriw, the coach continues along the western, or Carnarvonshire, side of the river, and passes through most lovely scenery. At the end of a mile and a half we reach **Gwydyr Castle**. It is one of the objects that should be included in an excursion from Llanrwst, Trefriw, or from **Bettws-y-Coed**, which is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. At this delightful village the coach stops for a couple of hours, so that passengers who care to avail themselves of the brakes or private carriages have time to obtain refreshments and to visit the Fairy Glen, the Miners' Bridge, and the Swallow Waterfalls. A full description of the village and of the walks and excursions from it will be found on other pages.

The Return Journey to Llandudno is made on the eastern, or Denbighshire, side of the river, which is crossed by the Waterloo Bridge, commanding an exceedingly picturesque view up the valley.

A run of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles along a most pleasant road brings us to the little town of **Llanrwst**, where a short halt is made. Thence the route is past *The Abbey*, which marks the site of Maenan Abbey, through **Tal-y-Cafn**, and past **Bodnant Hall**, the goal of excursionists on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Soon Conway Castle once again rivets attention. We pass Llandudno Junction Station, and then travel over familiar ground to our starting-place.

THE GRAND LOOP TOUR.

¹ Time Table.

	A.M.		P.M.
Leave Queen's Hotel, Llandudno	9.45	Leave Bethesda	3.45
Leave Llandudno Junction Hotel	10.15	„ Llanfairfechan, Castle Hotel	5.0
Leave Llanrwst, Victoria Hotel	12.0	Leave Penmaenmawr, Mountain View Hotel	5.20
Arrive Bettws-y-Coed, Gwydyr Hotel	p.m. 12.30	Leave Conway	6.0
Leave Bettws-y-Coed	1.15	Arrive at Llandudno about	6.30
„ Cobden's Hotel, Capel Curig	2.10		

This tour embraces some of the finest scenery in Wales. As far as Llandudno Junction the route is identical with that taken by the Bettws-y-Coed coaches, as already described.

Leaving Llandudno Junction, the coach proceeds through **Llansaintffraid-Glan-Conway** ("the Parish of Saint Bride on the brink of the Conway"), along the picturesque slopes of the Denbighshire Hills, through **Tal-y-Cafn**, where a pretty Suspension Bridge has superseded the former ferry across the River Conway. Then past Inigo Jones's famous bridge at **Llanrwst to Bettws-y-Coed**, where a halt is made for luncheon. Both villages are described in another section.

Horses having been changed, the journey is resumed by the old coach-road up the Llugwy Valley, past the primitive **Miners' Bridge**, or ladder placed over the deep Glen to the rocks on the farther side. Thence to the famous **Swallow Falls**, a mile and a half farther. A fine view of the falls is obtained from the coach.

After a run of $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles through the picturesque valley of the *Llugwy*, keeping close to the left bank of the stream, the sides of which are richly wooded, Capel Curig is reached. Here a fine distant view is obtained of Snowdon and its buttresses (Capel Curig is one of the points from which the ascent may be made) and of Moel Siabod and the Glyders.

The monarch of Welsh mountains stretches right across the farther end of the long valley, and the four principal peaks make a splendid background to Capel Curig's twin lakes.

Capel Curig

is beautifully situated on the Shrewsbury and Holyhead road, and is one of the oldest tourist resorts in the

¹ These particulars are only intended as approximate and should be verified by reference to current programmes.



Slater,]

STILI. POOL, BETTWS-Y-COED.

[Darlington.



[Reigate.

THE PASS OF ABERGLASLYN.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

Principality. It consists for the most part of hotels and lodging houses, the resident population numbering only about 500. The village is about 600 feet above sea-level, and has a bracing air. It is a capital resort for anglers, for, besides the lakes close at hand, there are other good fishing waters not far away. The Church is dedicated to St. Curig, a British recluse; hence the name of the village.

From Capel Curig the ascent of **Moel Siabod** (*shiabbod*), 2,860 feet, may be made in less time than from any of the other points from which the climb is begun (Capel Curig, $1\frac{1}{2}$ –2 hours; Pen-y-Gwryd and Dolwyddelen, $1\frac{3}{4}$ –2 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours; Bettws-y-Coed, $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 hours). It is an extremely precipitous mountain, the sides and summit thickly strewn with loose fragments. The climb is consequently difficult, but it amply repays the toil. Standing a little apart from the group, this peak affords a sublime view of the mountains of Snowdonia, with their lakes and hollows, and of the Irish Sea, with the bay of Carnarvon and Cardigan. Guides can be engaged at the local hotels.

The next stage of the tour is through the **Ogwen Valley**, to the left of which are the lofty heights or spurs of the Glyders and on the right Pen Helig, Pen-Llithrig-y-Wrach and the Carnedds. After a few miles—

Llyn Ogwen

is reached, in the midst of some of the wildest mountain scenery in Wales. The spot, indeed, furnishes one of the best examples of mountain scenery in the whole of Snowdonia, widely different forms of picturesque beauty being crowded into a limited area. The lake (984 feet above sea-level) lies by the side of the coach-road. It is a great sheet of water extending more than a mile from east to west, and about a quarter of a mile across at its widest part. It affords good fishing for eels and trout, the latter being of excellent quality. On the right, **Braich Du**, a shoulder of Carnedd Dafydd, rises from the water's edge, and on the left is—

Tryfan,

“the three-headed mountain,” which rises to an altitude of 3,010 feet, and is the most remarkable mountain in the Snowdon range. In shape it resembles a pyramid, and, bristling as it does with fantastic and pinnacled rockwork,

North Wales (h)

it affords unlimited scope for the hardy cragsman. The eastern face forms a favourite climb for mountaineers; several fatal accidents have taken place upon it. On the summit are two stones known to climbers as *Adam and Eve*; they are clearly visible from the high-road and look like a couple of statues.

The head of Nant Ffrancon is the starting-point for **Llyn Idwai** (1 mile), the centre of grand rock and cliff scenery, and the famous rock-chasm known as **Twl-Du**, or "The Devil's Kitchen" (2 miles), as well as for the ascent of Tryfan. A description of the two first-named will be found among the excursions from Bangor.

After leaving Llyn Ogwen the coach descends the Pass known as—

Nant Ffrancon,

or "the vale of beavers." The name, a corruption of Nant-yr-Afanc, is supposed to tell of a time when the valley was a covert for those amphibious animals. It comprises a narrow strip of meadowland, surrounded by lofty mountains, wild, barren and scathed. Through the valley the small River Ogwen meanders towards the sea. Ages ago the valley was the bed of a glacier, as the marks of the ice upon the rocks testify. In the hills also are hollows due to the action of the ice, they being the beds of smaller glaciers, when that in the valley was wasting. The most remarkable of these hollows, or cwms as they are called, is on the western side of the valley, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bethesda Station.

Around the head of the valley are **Glyder-fawr** (3,279 feet) and **Glyder-fach** (3,262 feet), the latter probably the roughest mountain in the kingdom. The easiest ascent of these peaks is from Pen-y-Gwryd, on the opposite side. From the broad, rounded summit of Glyder-fawr an extensive view is obtained, and it is considered the best point from which to see Snowdon.

The coach-road is on the eastern side of the valley, gradually descending through the Pass for $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Bethesda.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles before reaching Bethesda a bridge leads to the farm road at the foot of the mountains on the western side of the valley, and affords a view of the **Falls of Ogwen** not obtainable from the main or upper road. As time is not sufficient for visitors on the coach to visit this view-point,

they are recommended to make a special trip, making the outward journey from Bethesda by the main road, including if possible another visit to the Pass, this being the grander approach to it, and returning by that in the valley.

Just before Bethesda is reached a good view is obtained of the **Penrhyn Slate Quarries**, on the opposite side of the Valley. **Bethesda** derives its name from a Congregational Church, and is chiefly occupied by the *employés* in these celebrated Quarries, the property of Lord Penrhyn. They are the largest in the world, and are *open to visitors, under the conduct of a guide, from 10 to 5.30, on payment of a small fee (about 3d. each).* (See Bangor section.)

Bethesda is a good starting-place for the ascent of **Carnedd Dafydd** (3,426 feet) and **Carnedd Llewelyn** (3,484 feet), the two next highest mountains to Snowdon. The paths are by no means difficult, but no one should attempt the ascents without a guide. The scenery is grand and varied, and not a few persons are of opinion that the views surpass those from Snowdon.

The journey homewards from Bethesda is made through the model village of **Llandegai**, past **Penrhyn Castle** (the seat of Lord Penrhyn), to **Aber**. Here fine views are gained of the Anglesey Coast, Puffin Island, Beaumaris, Bangor, the Menai Strait and Llandudno. **Aber** is famous for its beautiful glen and waterfalls. These, however, cannot be seen from the high-road.

The road now lies for two miles through a delightfully wooded district. Passing Colonel Platt's mansion, *Gorddinnog*, on the right, and his model farm, noted for its black Welsh cattle, on the left, and the mansion of *Bryn-y-neuadd*, **Llanfairfechan** is reached. Two miles farther, after rounding the magnificent headland of Penmaenmawr by a roadway which runs high up on the face of the mountain—falling away so abruptly on the left that it seems as if a single leap would suffice to take one from the boundary wall of the road into the waves beneath—**Penmaenmawr** is reached. Thence round Penmaenbach Point to **Conway**, over the Suspension Bridge to Llandudno Junction, and so back to Llandudno.

TO AND FROM THE ABER WATERFALLS.

The route taken lies through Conway, along the sea-coast to Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan, and thence for 3 miles

through the estate of Colonel Platt to the *Aber Hotel*, 15 miles from Llandudno. Vehicles plying for hire can be engaged by visitors who desire to be driven from the hotel to **Pont Newydd**, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The rest of the passage through the valley to the famous **Waterfalls** must be performed on foot, as described in the excursion from Llanfairfechan. Having followed the path to the end of the glen, a full view of the falls is suddenly disclosed. The upper part is through a narrow groove in the rock, and then there is a straight fall of about 30 feet to some projecting rocks, on which the volume of water is broken, and thence in a thin sheet of 30 or 40 feet the cataract bounds into the pool below.

TO AND FROM PENMAENMAWR.

The coaches proceed *viâ* Conway and the Sychnant Pass, a route abounding in fine mountain and marine views. They pass through the town leaving by the upper gate of the town walls, and thence over the old coach-road past *Plas Mawr*, with its round tower, from the summit of which a charming view is obtained. A halt is made at the *Dwygyfylchi Hotel*, at the approach to the **Fairy Glen**, which passengers are thus enabled to visit. Only a short stay is made at Penmaenmawr. The return journey is by the coast road.

TO AND FROM COLWYN BAY.

The outward journey is past the Craigside Hydro, Little Orme's Head, and Rhos-on-Sea, so that charming views over land and sea are obtained. The return journey is made through the lovely vale of Mochdre and past Llandudno Junction, from which there is a fine view of Conway Castle and Bridge.

TO AND FROM BODNANT HALL.

On Tuesday and Saturday afternoons.

Bodnant Hall is on the eastern side of the Conway River, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles short of Tal-y-Cafn Station, and is *open to the public on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 2 to 5*. Admission at side entrance. The hall, a modern building in the Elizabethan style of architecture, was built by the late Mr. H. D. Pochin, M.P.

The principal attraction is the garden, "the luxuriance of which," as a writer has said, "is simply indescribable." It

is altogether about 35 acres in extent, and has about 3 miles of walks. The late owner was a horticulturist of the first rank, and spared neither trouble nor expense in importing the rarest tress, shrubs, flowers, ferns, and other plants from every quarter of the globe. Among others may be seen the *Abies Nobilus*, which grows to a height of 300 feet, *Abies Californir*, Cedars, *Wellingtonias*, the Golden Cyprus, the Golden Yew, Australian tree fern (one of which was planted by Bishop Fraser), and the Forbidden Fruit tree.

Many of the trees have been planted by men who have made their mark in science, literature, chemistry, law, and politics, including Mr. John Bright, Lord Maclaren, Mr. Justice Wills, Sir Robert Ronaldson, Sir Edward Watkin, and Sir H. W. Lucy.

From the upper part of the garden glimpses may be obtained of Carnedd Llewelyn, Carnedd Dafydd, Drum, Tal-y-Fan, Foel Fras, Pen-Llithrig-y-Wrach, and many other peaks of the Snowdonian range.

The dell is a delightfully shady retreat on a hot day. Through it the lovely little rivulet *Arethlem* meanders among boulders and is precipitated over diminutive falls. In combination with its surroundings it produces an effect that long lingers in the memory.

The mausoleum, called the **Poem**, is also an object of interest to visitors. It was erected in the closing years of the last century. The interior is constructed of alabaster, Mexican onyx, and other expensive varieties of marble. The total cost is said to have been £10,000.

THE NEW SHORT LOOP.

This drive is through some of the finest scenery in the district. The coach proceeds along the Conway road, past the villages of Llanrhos and Glan Conway and the grounds of Bodnant Hall, and along the banks of the River Conway to Tal-y-Cafn, where the river is crossed and a halt is made. From Tal-y-Cafn the route is through Tyn-y-groes to **Roe Wen**, and thence northward to Gyffin and Conway.

THE SNOWDON LOOP TOUR.

The motor coaches proceed along the Conway Road, through Llanrwst and Bettws-y-Coed and past the Miners' Bridge and the Swallows Falls to Capel Curig and Pen-y-Gwryd, where the route turns to the right and ascends to Gorphwysfa (1,169 feet). Thence down the Pass of Llanberis to the hotel, where lunch is served and a long halt is made

to give passengers an opportunity of ascending Snowdon by the Mountain Railway. The homeward journey is made by way of Carnarvon and Bangor.

RAILWAY TRIPS FROM LLANDUDNO.

THE ASCENT OF SNOWDON.

Fairly good connections are made by the L. & N.W. R. Co, to Llanberis, the starting-point of the Snowdon Mountain Railway, but it is a tedious journey from Llandudno, with more than one change.

Particulars of the Snowdon Mountain Railway and descriptions of the various ascents will be found in the Carnarvon section.

TO BETTWS-Y-COED,

With Excursions en Route.

The branch line from Llandudno Junction to Bettws-y-Coed affords means by which the tourist can cheaply and easily visit Eastern Snowdonia, and can make many pleasant excursions in the **Vale of Conway**. We have already shown how the Valley can be traversed almost from end to end by coach, for it terminates a short distance beyond Bettws-y-Coed. We have also described the coach route to and from that village, and on other pages show how a portion of the Valley can be seen from a river steamer. As both road and rail run near the river, much of the scenery is common to the three routes. In describing them, repetition is avoided as far as possible, and therefore the traveller by any of the three is advised to read what is said of the others.

Having made the short run from Llandudno to Llandudno Junction, we may have to change trains. The line is laid along the eastern bank of the river. Starting on the second portion of the journey, we have in view, on the other side of the estuary, the wooded hill called *Benarth*, and the more distant view embraces the mountains enumerated as visible from the coach soon after it has left Conway. The first station is at **Llansaintffraid-Glan-Conway**, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Junction. For the sake of brevity, and to distinguish this station from another Llansaintffraid, the railway authorities have named it simply *Glan Conway*. The discarded word means "the Church of St. Ffraid (or Bride)." The building to which it was applied no longer exists. It is supposed to

have stood almost in front of the station, on a spot where are now two large pieces of rock. The next station is at—

Tal-y-Cafn,

8½ miles from Llandudno, or 5¼ from the Junction. From this pleasant spot several excursions can be made.

1. **To Bodnant Hall**, *open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 2 to 5*, and reached by following the road for about 1½ miles towards the north.

2. **To Llanfairfechan**, *viâ Bwlch-y-Ddeufaen Pass*. Cross the bridge (*toll 1d.*), and follow the road inland across the Conway Road to Roe Wen, about 2 miles. From the end of the village the road ascends steeply, and at a distance of some 5 miles from the river reaches the great stones at the top of the Pass. The road thence to Llanfairfechan is described in connection with that village.

3. **To Caerhûn Church**. On the western bank, about 1½ miles from Tal-y-Cafn station. Having crossed the bridge, turn to the left, and at the end of a few yards take a lane on the left, leading to a farm. Go to the right of that and then incline to the left, and at the end of the farm buildings pass through a gate, beyond which there is no difficulty in keeping on the road to the church. A short 2 miles to the south-west of Caerhûn is the hill of **Pen-y-Gaer** (the "hill of the fort"), so called from being the site of an ancient camp.

4. **To Porthlwyd Falls**. On the western bank, about 4 miles from the station. Follow the track to Caerhûn Church, as above, and thence take the carriage-road to the Trefriw Road, in which turn to the left; *or* follow the high-road inland from the bridge until it strikes the Trefriw Road; then turn to the left, and follow it to the bridge over the Porthlwyd River, a mile beyond the hamlet of Tal-y-Bont. Just short of the Bridge, take a lane on the right. This leads, in about twenty minutes, to a small plateau, from which a gate on the left gives access to the Falls. If possible, this excursion should be made after heavy rain, for then the Falls are exceedingly fine. Porthlwyd Bridge is only 3 miles from Trefriw, whence omnibuses run to Llanrwst Station. The distance between Trefriw and Llanrwst Station by the nearest road is only a mile. A mile south of Porthlwyd are the **Dolgarrog Falls**, fed by the Cowlyd stream, having its source at Llyn Cowlyd, from whence Colwyn Bay, Conway and Deganwy are supplied with water. The falls are less accessible than the Perthwyd Falls, and the view, though beautiful, is

somewhat obstructed by trees. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther south is Trefriw, described in another section.

5. **To Pen-y-Gaer**, an eminence on the western side of the river, about 1,200 feet in height. On it there was a British fort, the earthworks of which are easily traced. But the summit is chiefly visited for the sake of the view. This includes the whole of Conway Valley on the one side, and on the other it extends as far as the two sources of the Llandudno water supply—Llyn Dulyn and Melyn Llyn. Follow the Trefriw Road for a short distance south of Caerhûn Church, and there turn off to the right along a lane leading to Llanbedr. Go on from that village towards the north-west for about three-quarters of a mile, and then take a by-road to the left.

A run of about a mile from Tal-y-Cafn brings us in sight of the little Church of **Caerhûn**, which, with its surroundings, makes a pretty picture. As we proceed southwards, the hills on the west draw nearer to the line and are seen to be steep and well-wooded. Coming down them are the **Porthlwyd Falls**, when we are about two miles from Caerhûn, and a mile farther we may catch sight of the **Dolgarrog Falls**. A station at Dolgarrog serves the great aluminium works across the river. The next station serves both **Llanrwst** and **Trefriw**, described on other pages. Llanrwst Station is half a mile from the town, and the latter, as we pass it, is hidden from view by the side of a deep cutting ; but when the open ground is again reached we may look back upon the church and bridge, while immediately opposite are the grounds and woods of Gwydyr Castle and the Falcon Rock. Then the line crosses the Conway, and we may get a glimpse of Moel Siabod, up the vale of the Llugwy, before the train is brought to a standstill at **Bettws-y-Coed**, a description of which, together with excursions from it, will be found in the Bettws-y-Coed section.

SEA TRIPS FROM LLANDUDNO.

TO lovers of the sea, a special charm of Llandudno is the number and variety of the sea trips that can be taken from it, under the most agreeable conditions, by the saloon steamers *La Marguerite* and others. There are in normal times daily sailings for Beaumaris, Bangor, Menai Bridge, Carnarvon and Liverpool. There are also frequent trips round the Isle of Anglesey, to Douglas (Isle of Man) and to Blackpool, and cruises to Rhos-on-Sea, Rhyl, Puffin Island, Holyhead and the Menai Strait, towards the Point of Ayr, towards the Dee Lightship, and to Bardsey Island at the south-western extremity of Carnarvonshire.

Our note of warning as to coach and motor trips applies to these water excursions also. Changes occur, and the information given here does not remove the necessity of reference to current announcements for precise details.

Most of the places visited or passed are described on other pages in virtue of their importance as holiday centres. The leading features of the remainder will here be outlined.

The passage in the Menai Strait is usually so calm that the most timid find it enjoyable. The principal points in it will be found in the following description of the trip—

ROUND THE ISLAND OF ANGLESEY,

which embraces 80 miles of delightful coast scenery. The principal features of the Island are more fully described in the Anglesey section.

On leaving the Pier, we pass close to the lofty, wave-worn cliffs of the Great Orme, and may see first the Church of St. Tudno, and shortly afterwards the Lighthouse, 325 feet above sea-level.

At the end of some 7 or 8 miles we arrive off **Priestholm** or **Puffin Island**, known also by the Welsh as *Ynys Seiriol* (Seiriol's Island), because Seiriol, a holy recluse in the sixth century, had a cell upon it. It is called Priestholm (Priest's

Island) because it was occasionally used as a retreat by the inhabitants of the Priory of Penmon, on the neighbouring coast. And, lastly, it is known as Puffin Island through being the resort of immense numbers of the puffin auk. It is about half a mile in length, and is separated from Anglesey by a strait about half a mile wide. Near the centre is an old square tower, the remains of a religious house or a church. To the south of the island is the **Dutehman's Bank**, on which the *Rothesay Castle* steamer, on its passage from Liverpool, was wrecked on the night of August 17, 1831, and more than 100 persons perished. Some who pass the spot will remember that in Miss Martineau's *History of the Thirty Years' Peace* there is the following touching story of the wreck :—

“Two men, strangers to each other, found themselves holding on to the same plank, which, it soon appeared, would support only one. Each desired the other to hold on, the one because his companion was old, the other because his companion was young, and they quitted their grasp at the same moment. By extraordinary accidents both were saved, each without the knowledge of the other, and they met on the shore in great surprise. Few greetings in the course of human life can be so sweet and moving as must have been that of these two heroes.”

In consequence of the wreck the Penmon lighthouse was erected. It has a greater number of courses of masonry beneath the water than has the more celebrated Eddystone.

Continuing the voyage, we pass on the north-eastern point of Anglesey, the **Penmon Quarries**, famed for their marble, and there come into view the remains of **Penmon Priory**, founded in the sixth century, and having St. Seiriol for its first head. Next is passed a farmhouse called *Trer' Castell*, occupying the site of an ancient seat of the Tudor family.

Then, as the vessel passes through a roadstead known as the **Friars**, we get enchanting views of the mainland. The prospect includes the mouth of the Conway, Penmaenmawr village and mountain and, at one particular point, a glimpse of Aber Waterfall. Near Beaumaris the deep channel is only a quarter of a mile wide, and at low water a sandbank known as the **Lavan Sands**, the site of the submerged palace *Llys Helig*, appears between the channel and the Carnarvonshire shore. The bank once formed a ford across the Strait. Its legendary history is narrated in connection with Penmaenmawr.

The first stopping-place of the steamer is **Beaumaris**, which is fully described in the section relating to Anglesey.

From the steamer one gets a view of the *Castle* and of *Baron Hill*, the residence of Sir Richard Bulkeley, a short distance in the rear of the town, while the *Bulkeley Memorial Column*, behind Baron Hill, is a conspicuous object. It stands 100 feet high, is constructed of Penmon marble, and bears a brass plate with a suitable inscription. The column was erected to the memory of the baronet, who died in 1875.

Just beyond Beaumaris is **Gallows Point**, a place of execution in olden times. On the Carnarvonshire shore may be seen Penrhyn Castle, and in the far distance the entrance to the Pass of Nant Ffrancon, and the lofty summits of Carnedd Dafydd and Carnedd Llewelyn o'ertopping the surrounding mountains. On the same side, also, near the mouth of the Ogwen, are two fishing-weirs that are said to date from the eighth century. Then comes **Port Penrhyn**, from which the slates from the Penrhyn quarries are shipped. Almost immediately afterwards the steamer is at the fine pier of **Bangor**, fully described elsewhere.

We pass many beautiful residences along the shores as we steam down the Strait from Bangor to our next stopping-place, the pier at **Menai Bridge Town**, at the Anglesey end of—

The Menai Suspension Bridge,

which spans the strait at a point $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bangor station.

Up to the beginning of the nineteenth century, ferries, five in number, afforded the only means of communication with Anglesey; but owing to the inconvenience and danger to which travellers were exposed, the attention of the Government was seriously directed to the matter, and, Telford's plans for the bridge having been approved by Parliament, its construction was begun in 1818, and on January 30, 1826, it was opened. Its actual cost was £120,000, and the sum of £26,577 was awarded to the owners of the superseded ferries. The roadway is 100 feet above the surface of the water at the highest tides; the distance between the points of suspension is 560 feet, and the total length of the roadway is said to be 1,000 feet. Only four fatal accidents occurred among the workmen engaged in the erection of the bridge and those who lost their lives represented the four nationalities included in the United Kingdom.

Having passed under the Bridge, attention is immediately drawn to the old church of **Llandysilio**, connected with the main portion of Anglesey by a causeway. Then comes **Gorad Goch**, a small island with a fishing weir, and rocks and pools that yield specimens of marine life for the naturalist, and there are opportunities for the patient observer to study the habits of some of the fish that frequent the surrounding water. But the island is chiefly visited for the enjoyment of a whitebait tea at the cottage.

To the right of the island is the **Anglesey Column**, in memory of the Marquis of Anglesey, who was second in command at Waterloo, where he left a leg, upon which George Canning, the distinguished statesman of that time, is said to have written the following epitaph :—

Here rests—and let no saucy knave
Presume to sneer or laugh,
To learn that mould'ring in this grave
There lies a—British calf.

For he who writes these lines is sure
That those who read the whole
Will find that laugh was premature
For here, too, lies the sole.

And here five little ones repose,
Twin born with other five,
Unheeded by their brother toes,
Who all are now alive.

A leg and foot, to speak more plain,
Lie here of one commanding :
Who though his wits he might retain,
Lost half his understanding ;

And when the guns, with thunder fraught,
Poured bullets thick as hail,
Could only in this way be taught
To give the foe leg-bail ;

And now in England, just as gay
As in the battle brave,
'Goes to the rout, the ball, the play,
With one leg in the grave.

Fortune in vain has showed her spite,
For he will soon be found,
Should England's sons engage in fight,
Resolved to stand his ground.

But Fortune's pardon I must beg ;
She meant not to disarm ;
And when she lopped the hero's leg
She did not seek his h-arm ;

And but indulged a harmless whim ;
Since he could walk with one,
She saw two legs were lost on him,
Who never meant to run.

Exactly a mile from the Suspension Bridge we pass under—

The Britannia Tubular Bridge,

which carries the railway across the Strait through long hollow tubes, of which the floor and roof are formed of small cubes firmly connected.

The name is derived from a rock in the middle of the Strait, on which rests the central tower, 230 feet high. The bridge was constructed by Robert Stephenson with the co-operation of Sir William Fairbairn, between 1846 and 1850, at a cost of £621,865. The tubes are 104 feet above the water. Their total length is 1,513 feet, but the bridge is 328 feet longer. On the central tower the ends of the tubes are immovable, but on the shore towers and abutments they rest on roller beds to allow for the contraction and expansion of the metal due to variation of temperature. At each entrance is a pair of colossal lions, of limestone, 25 feet 6 inches in length, and 12 feet 8 inches in height.

Having passed under the Tubular Bridge, we see a statue of Lord Nelson on the right, and get an unobstructed view of the mansion of **Plas Newydd**, beautifully situated on the same side of the Strait.

About 1½ miles farther along the Strait is the Moel Don Ferry, opposite **Port Dinorwic**, from which the produce of the Llanberis slate quarries is shipped. It is believed that this spot or its immediate neighbourhood was the scene of the passage of the Strait by the Roman forces of Suetonius and afterwards of Agricola.

Beyond the little port the Strait widens, and attention is directed to **Carnarvon**, on the southern side, about 10 miles by water from Bangor.

About 3 miles beyond Carnarvon we reach the open sea, and have, at first, a low uninteresting coast on our right. The vessel keeps close to Anglesey, and at the end of some 14 or 15 miles from the mouth of the Strait arrives off **Holyhead Island**, with its grand coast scenery, and in due time reaches the **South Stack Lighthouse**, 212 feet high. We can

see the suspension bridge by which the islet has communication with Holyhead Island; and also the stepped path on the face of the cliff of the larger island. Holyhead Mountain comes next, and then we may look up the bay towards **Holyhead Harbour**. A run of several miles to the north brings us abreast of a group of rocks called the **Skerries**, the site of a red-banded lighthouse, the dues of which were purchased by the Government for the sum of £444.984. The light is visible 17 miles all round.

Thence our course is along the northern coast of the island, where, some 6 miles from the Skerries, we pass **Cemaes Bay**, the first of a group of watering-places, the others being Bull Bay, Amlwch and Eilian Bay, the last-named having for its eastern horn the far-projecting Point Lynas with its famous signalling station. The port of **Amlwch**, once supported by neighbouring copper mines, has a harbour cut out of the solid rock. All this part of the coast presents features of grand scenery, which is continued past **Benllech**, with its fine sands, to **Red Wharf Bay**, both pleasant little resorts linked by a branch railway with the main Anglesey line. The Bay is the goal of excursions from Beaumaris, and from Bangor and Llandudno. Having left it behind we soon arrive off Puffin Island, and so complete the circuit of Anglesey.

THE TRIP TO DOUGLAS.

This is of a totally different character from the trip just described, as, with the exception of the coast in the vicinity of Llandudno, there is no land in view until the Isle of Man comes in sight.

Douglas Bay is one of the most beautiful in the kingdom, and is seen to perfection as the steamer makes for the harbour. The precipitous headland to the left is *Douglas Head*, the favourite morning haunt of a large proportion of visitors. The Bay is about 3 miles across. A tramway (fare, 2d.) runs along the shore from the Victoria Pier to the *Derby Castle*, at the northern extremity of the bay. Here electric trams may be taken to Laxey and Ramsey, and for the ascent of Snaefell (2,034 feet), the highest point of the island.

The *Guide to the Isle of Man* in this series, containing views of island scenery and maps and plans, can be obtained of all the booksellers.

THE TRIP TO LIVERPOOL.

On this excursion the steamer is never very far from land, and the course is roughly east or west. The passage takes from $2\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 hours. Those who both go and return by boat have from 2 to 4 hours on shore. A longer time can be spent in the city if the journey one way is made by rail. For street plan of the city and full details see the *Guide to Liverpool* in this series.

TO BARDSEY ISLAND.

This cruise is a favourite one. The steamer passes through the Menai Strait and along the coast of Carnarvon to the extreme south-western point of the county, the island being situated about a mile from the cape known as **Braich-y-Pwll** (brak-e-pool), the Land's End of Wales, where there is magnificent scenery. **Bardsey Island** is about two miles in length by one in width. The inhabitants, including the staff of the lighthouse, number between sixty and seventy, and they are either farmers or fishermen.

According to the old chronicles, a band of monks fled to Bardsey to escape massacre by heathen Saxon raiders. Through the presence of the holy men it gained a reputation as a place of sanctity and was visited by countless pilgrims, of whom 20,000 are said to have made it their burial-place. Foundation to this tale is given by the fact that human bones in very great numbers have been turned up.

The island belongs to Lord Newborough. The third baron had a particular affection for it, spent much of his time upon it, and by the quaint action which he took for the regulation of its affairs, created the chief feature of interest which the island to-day presents to the curious, namely, the existence of the "King of Bardsey."

Half a century and more ago, when means of communication were much less perfect than they are to-day, the islanders were so isolated that while not deliberately setting aside the laws of the country, they drew up their own code of rules and ordinances. Lord Newborough, perceiving the need of some directing influence, selected from among his tenants one of superior parts, of marked character and integrity, and, appointing him head man, vested in him his own authority as landlord, and bade the islanders obey his ruling. By

way of jest, he declared that his vicegerent should indeed be "King," and in pursuance of his whim presented the peasant monarch with a "crown" of brass, a "treasure" in the shape of a silver casket, and an "army" to guard the treasure in the person of a wooden effigy, painted to represent a soldier. For many years the "King" ruled beneficently in Bardsey, the office passing at his death to his son. Of late years, however, the islanders have come into closer touch with the mainland, and, the old order having changed, the functions of the "King" have lapsed. But the insignia of office remain, and the tradition is maintained.

Fuller details are given in the *Guide to North Wales, Southern Section*.

LAND AND SEA EXCURSIONS FROM LLANDUDNO.

The Liverpool and North Wales Steamship Co. combine with the proprietors of the "Silver" motor coaches in a circular tour. The land portion extends from Llandudno to the Anglesey end of the Menai Bridge, the route lying through Llanrwst, Bettws-y-Coed, Capel Curig, the Pass of Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda and Bangor. The sea route is between the Menai Bridge and Llandudno.

CONWAY.

Access.—By the Chester and Holyhead line of the L. & N.W.R. From London Conway can be reached in 5½ hours, from Birmingham in 4, Manchester and Liverpool in 2½.

Amusements.—Boating, yachting, fishing, mountain-climbing, golfing. Moving pictures in the Town Hall.

Banks.—*London City and Midland*, High Street, and *National Provincial and Union*, Castle Street.

Bathing on Conway Morfa; good sandy beach.

Boating.—The pleasure boats let for hire are annually examined and licensed by the Corporation. They may be obtained at the quay.

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Golf Links.—On Conway Morfa, 1 mile on Bangor road. Visitors introduced by members of the Carnarvonshire Club, 2s. 6d. per day; 7s. 6d. per week; 21s. per month. A professional is in attendance daily. The course is one of 18 holes. There is a Ladies' course of 9 holes. Special ferry from Deganwy. There is also an 18-hole course in connection with the Oakwood Park Hotel. Day, 2s. 6d.; week, 7s. 6d.; month, 21s. Sunday play.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—These may be addressed to the Borough Accountant. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Library.—Free Reference and Lending Library in Town Hall.

Markets and Fairs.—Friday is the market day. Ten fairs are held in the course of the year. The September fair is noted for the sale of honey and beeswax in High Street, opposite to the Castle Hotel.

Motor-bus Service.—Conway to Trefriw, Llanrwst and Bettws, *via* Roe Wen and Tal-y-Bont; and to Llandudno. Silver motors run to Penmaenmawr twice daily.

Newspapers.—*Weekly News*, Thursday, 1d.; *The Pioneer*, 1d.

Places of Worship, with hours of Sunday services:—

St. Mary's (the Parish Church)—8, English; 9.45, Welsh; 11.15, English; 6, Welsh.

St. Agnes—English only, 6.30 p.m.

St. John's, English Wesleyan—11 and 6.30.

Tabernaïc, Welsh Wesleyan, Baptist, Carmel Calvinistic Methodist, Sion Congregational, Roman Catholic—all at 10 and 6.

Population.—6,000.

Post Office.—Bangor Road.

River Steamers.—During the season steamers ply to and from Trefriw Spa, according to tide. See announcements.

CONWAY is a popular tourist centre, and in the holiday season is a lively little place, a large proportion of the visitors to the coast of North Wales being drawn to the town by its many historical edifices.

The town is well drained, and its water-supply satisfies the most exacting requirements. The water is obtained from Llyn Cowlyd, a lake situated more than 1,000 feet above sea-level, in the heart of the mountains above Trefriw and

Crafnant. It has a storage capacity of 435,600,000 gallons, so that the supply is practically inexhaustible. The catchment area is unpolluted either by human habitation or animal grazing. According to an analysis made by the late Professor J. Campbell Brown, D.Sc., the water is "very pure" and "exceedingly soft."

Conway is beautifully situated on a slope on the left bank of the river from which it takes its name, an Anglicized form of the two British words *cyn*, first or chief, and *wy*, water. It is seen to the greatest advantage when approached by road from Llandudno Junction, less than a mile to the east. The road passes over the—

Suspension Bridge.

Tolls.—Pedestrians, free; bicycles, 2d.; conveyances drawn by horses, 6d. for each horse; motor cars, 1s. These tolls cover the return journey if made the same day.

The suspended roadway measures 327 feet between the centres of the towers, is 32 feet wide, and 18 feet above high water. The bridge was commenced in 1822 and completed in 1826, replacing an ancient and dangerous ferry. In 1904, a footway was added, which contributes to the safety of pedestrians and does not detract from the beauty of the structure.

It may be remarked in passing that there are three other bridges over this part of the river. Two are tubular viaducts constructed for the L. & N.W. Railway Co. by Robert Stephenson, the first of their kind. The other is a wire rope suspension bridge for the purpose of conveying water (from Cowlyd Lake) for Deganwy and Colwyn Bay.

One minute's walk from the Suspension Bridge is the entrance to—

Conway Castle.

Admission.—Threepence.

The control of the Castle is now vested in the Conway Corporation, who offer facilities for picnics and other gatherings in the grounds. Application for particulars should be made to the Borough Accountant.

The Castle was completed in 1284 for Edward I. It is of oblong form, and extends along the verge of a precipitous rock, washed on two sides by the river. The other sides front the town. The walls are at least 15 feet thick, and are flanked by eight vast circular embattled towers, each surmounted by a turret, but only four of the latter now

remain. The Castle had two ways of ingress. One, by a narrow flight of steps cut out of the rock, formed a communication between the fortress and the river. This is now destroyed, but the position may be seen from the eastern terrace, close to the Tubular Bridges. The other, the grand entrance, was at the north-west end, by a drawbridge, let down over a deep, wide fosse. The entrance is now by a zigzag path, but the drawbridge remains.

The interior of the fortress consists of two courts. On the south side of that which the visitor first enters is the **Banqueting Hall**, sometimes called Llewelyn's Hall. Its length is 130 feet, breadth 32 feet and height about 30 feet. It has lost its grand roof, which was supported by eight arches, of which one has been rebuilt. It has also lost its floor, under which were extensive vaults. At one end and on two sides are the fireplaces. The hall was lighted by six narrow windows on the side towards the river, and by three larger and more ornamental ones that looked into the inner court. At the east end of the hall was a chapel with a very fine east window, of which a small portion of the tracery still remains. Near the reservoir is a small gateway, with a sentinel's lodge, leading into the **Inner Court**. Here two towers—the north-east, called the **Queen's**, and the south-east, named the **King's**—served as the respective apartments of their Majesties. On the first floor of the Queen's tower is a beautiful little oratory of the thirteenth century, in which is placed a three-light window, in gun-metal framework, as a *Memorial of Queen Victoria*, with the inscription :—

“To the honoured memory of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria the windows of the Oratory in this tower have been glazed by a few of her faithful subjects. In the centre light, as a fitting tribute, is Eleanor, the Queen after whom the Oratory has been named and who, together with her Consort, Edward the First, the builder of this Castle, spent the Christmas of 1290 within its walls.”

Beautiful views of the town and of the surrounding country are obtained from a small grassy platform known as the **Terrace**, beyond the eastern towers, and from the battlements, reached by steps leading from the main courtyard and near the entrance to the Banqueting Hall and cellars. The north-western tower should be ascended for the remarkable views.

The history of the Castle is full of interest. The structure is said to have replaced a fortress built in the reign of William

the Conqueror by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. On the final destruction of Deganwy Castle by Llewelyn in 1262 preparations were made by England for the complete subjugation of Wales. Snowdonia was Llewelyn's stronghold, and Conway is the key to the eastern portion. Edward I made Conway his headquarters, and began the erection of the Castle in 1281. Llewelyn was slain the following year, and it is said that Edward I received the head of his foeman in the great Banqueting Hall. In 1290, Edward, having pushed ahead of his army with only a small following, was shut up within the castle by a large Welsh force from the hills, who had observed the swollen state of the river. Its subsidence enabled the English to rescue him from a position of great peril and privation.

In 1399 Richard II threw himself into Conway, then considered impregnable, but finding it unprovisioned was compelled to treat with his foes. Travelling under a safe conduct to meet Bolingbroke, he was led into an ambush a few miles from the Castle, and delivered as a prisoner.

The fortress played a prominent part in all the disturbances of subsequent years. In 1646 it was garrisoned for the King, but was taken, after a siege of three months, by the Parliamentary army. Charles II granted it to the Earl of Conway, by whom it was dismantled. Under the pretence of the requirements of His Majesty's service, the Earl ordered all the iron, timber and lead to be taken down and shipped to Ireland for sale. The local gentry vainly opposed the design, and the noble pile was reduced nearly to its present condition. The Earl, however, did not profit by his vandalism, for the vessel conveying the material to Ireland was wrecked and its contents were swallowed by the sea. It will be remembered that "Monk" Lewis made Conway Castle the scene of his drama, *The Castle Spectre*, and that reference is also made to it in Gray's poem, *The Bard*.

Almost as attractive as the Castle is an ancient house called—

Plas Mawr.

Admission, 6d. Open daily.

Plas Mawr, "the Great Mansion," stands near the top of High Street. It was built by Robert Wynne, of Gwydyr, in the reign of Elizabeth, and is a good specimen of the



T. R. Hammond,]

CONWAY CASTLE AND SUSPENSION BRIDGE,

[Conway.



[Conwy.]

COURTYARD, CONWAY CASTLE.

T. R. Hammond,]

domestic architecture of that period. It is now the headquarters of the **Royal Cambrian Academy of Art**, which has restored to Plas Mawr something of the appearance it presented in days of yore. The Academy Exhibition is held annually from Whitsun to October. The building is in two parts. One faces High Street and is entered through a portico decorated with the royal arms and Greek and Latin inscriptions signifying "bear and forbear." On the house also are the initials "I. H. S. ; X. P. S.," with the date 1580.

The house contains a spacious **Banqueting Hall**, a fine wainscotted apartment with fixed seats. The magnificent fretwork ceiling, the mouldings and crests over the fireplace, the original oak fender, and the large banqueting table, are among the objects that attract attention. Leaving this room by the doorway leading to the tower staircase, we turn to the right and enter the **Small Kitchen**, containing a huge fireplace, a stone oven, and an old-fashioned bread safe suspended from the ceiling. A doorway opposite that by which we entered gives access to the **Still Room**, used by those in attendance at the side gate hard by. By going to the end of the passage and turning to the right we reach **Queen Elizabeth's Sitting-room**, in which attention is claimed by the letters E.R. and the royal arms above the fireplace, the richly decorated ceiling and walls, and the old oak panelled door with its original wooden latch.

Opposite this apartment is the **West Kitchen**, which contains a fireplace about 9 feet 6 inches wide, 5 feet deep, and nearly 6 feet high. On leaving this kitchen we turn to the right and ascend the first flight of a spiral staircase. At the head, a peep may be obtained into a "priest's hiding-hole." Turning to the left we enter the **Wynne Room**, which was probably the bedroom of the Earl of Leicester, portions of whose arms (the boar and the bear and ragged staff) may be seen on the walls and ceilings. Opposite is **Queen Elizabeth's Bedroom**, with the arms of Robert Wynne, the initials "R.G." and "J.G." (Robert and John of Gwydyr), and figures of the owl, stork, swan, dove, lion, griffin, stag, etc. To the left of this chamber is the **Reception Room**, with seats similar to those in the Banqueting Hall, two of the original tables, and a fine geometrical ceiling. We leave this room from the side opposite the door by which we entered, and pass under a hiding-place formed in the thickness of the wall. Then we ascend a short flight of steps on the left, and, again keeping to the left, arrive at the **Lantern Room**, so named from an old lantern in the far right-hand corner. This room has the distinction of being the haunted room of the house.

It is a curious fact that there are 365 windows and 52 doors in the house, and 52 steps from the bottom to the top of the tower, thus associating the windows, doors, and stairs with the days and weeks of the year. Whether this is due to accident or design is not known.

The Walls

surrounding Conway cannot fail to interest the visitor. Their circuit measures a mile and a quarter, and somewhat resembles the form of a Welsh harp. In some places they are 12 feet thick. The walls are fortified by battlements and twenty-one semicircular towers. There were three principal entrances, with two strong towers to each. In 1898 the task of making the walls a safe promenade was begun, and now for a charge of *threepence* visitors can traverse a good part, starting from "Porth Uchaf" (the upper gate), at the higher end of Uppergate Street, or from Porth yr Adfor (the gate in the wing wall), at the entrance to the landing-stages.

The Church,

mainly of the Decorated period, was originally part of a Cistercian Abbey founded in 1184, of which few remains exist. The original Cistercian Church seems to have comprised the present chancel, nave and aisles. The transept is 14th century. The edifice contains finely carved stalls, a beautiful rood-screen of the thirteenth century, and an interesting font. Near the south door is a fine marble bust to the memory of the eminent sculptor, John Gibson, R.A. In an archway is a stone figure representing the mother of John Williams, Archbishop of York in the reign of Charles I. Near the screen is the remarkable tombstone of "Nicholas Hookes, of Conway, Gent., who was the forty-first child of his father, William Hookes, Esq., by Alice, his wife, and who was himself the father of twenty-seven children; he died on the 20th March, 1637." In the south wall of the chancel is a stone bearing a rudely cut cross and "Y.Z. 1066." Its history is unknown.

In the churchyard, near the south porch, is a sundial of 1761. East of it, with the remnant of its stone protected from relic-hunters by an iron screen, is a grave said to be

that of the little child associated with Wordsworth's "We are Seven."

The West Front is of great interest. In the wall of the north porch is a nameless *cross fleuris* found with skeletons and believed to date from the Wars of the Roses or earlier. Near the North Door a chapel is to be built as a memorial of the fallen in the Great War.

Not far from the vestry door is another nameless *cross fleuris* marking the tomb of those hapless lovers, David and Morfa in Owen Rhoscomyl's *Battlement and Tower*.

The *Castle Hotel* occupies the site of some of the building of the Abbey. Its woodwork is ornamented by fine specimens of domestic art, and on the walls are some good paintings by British artists.

In Lancaster Square is a *Drinking Fountain*, with a life-size bronze figure of Prince Llewelyn, bearing the inscription—"Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, Founder of Conway Abbey, A.D. 1184."

At the upper end of Chapel Street is an interesting old house, No. 30, known as the **Archbishop's Palace**, once the residence—possibly the birthplace—of Archbishop Williams, who fortified the Castle for Charles I.

At the corner of Castle Street and High Street is an old house called **Aberconway**, built in 1300 (*admission, 3d.*).

In Lowergate Street, facing the Quay and Landing Stage, is a tiny house known as the **Smallest House in Great Britain**. It is well worth a visit (*admission, 1d.*).

In respect of **Walks**, Conway is among the most richly endowed centres.

Among the Walks which should on no account be missed is the climb to the summit of **Conway Town Mountain**. It starts from the coast road, crossing the railway by a footbridge opposite the gasworks, and then following a green track to the summit, about 800 feet above the sea, on which is *Castell caer Lleon*, the remains of an ancient British fortress. The walk can be continued to the Sychnant Pass and Penmaenmawr. An alternative route is by Upper Gate Street and the Sychnant Pass road, from which the mountain may be reached across the fields.

Another is the **Marine Walk**, which extends round the fir-clad knoll of Twt Hill and the mansion of Bodlondeb. It can easily be accomplished in half an hour, and is especially

delightful when the tide is up. It affords the best view of the Castle.

Other recommended walks are :—

Through Benarth Wood. A walk of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Leave the Castle on the left, and you soon come to a path on the left leading through fields and the wood and past a farmyard. Then turn to the right for a short walk back through Gyffin or continue for three-quarters of a mile to Baclaw farm, and there turn to the right for Conway. Rare moths are sometimes captured in the wood.

To Llangelynin Old Church (3 miles). Leaving Conway by the Upper Gate, take the left-hand road. About $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles brings one to a Chapel. After passing it, continue uphill, making to the right of the lower shoulder of Tal-y-fan. The Church stands between the lowest shoulder and the next, and is not seen until close at hand. Return routes, eastward by a descent to the valley, northward by footpath to Roe Wen.

To Dwygyfylchi. Leave by the Upper Gate and follow the right-hand road to the romantic Sychnant Pass (2 miles), from which there is a descent into the village of Dwygyfylchi ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and the approach to the Fairy Glen described in the Penmaenmawr section. The return can be made *viâ* Penmaenbach, making a circular excursion of 5 miles, or over Conway Mountain, making a walk of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

To Penmaenbach, a headland at the eastern extremity of the valley in which Penmaenmawr is situated. Leave Conway by the Bangor Road, which leads to the foot of point, skirting the railway for the full distance of 2 miles. A pleasanter walk is to the summit of the headland by the path over Conway Town Mountain, the beginning of which is described on the previous page.

To Roewen.—By main road which commences by the Castle, and turns uphill in Gyffin Village. There are fine views of the mountains, and at Baclaw of the river also. A little beyond Coesynydd Hospital turn to the right and reach Roewen (4 miles). From Roewen an old Roman road runs westward to Aber and Llanfairfechan; a very pleasant road runs south-east to Caerhŷn. Roewen is very picturesque and is on the motor 'bus route between Conway and Trefriw.

To Colwyn Bay. There are two routes—

(1) Cross the bridge, pass through Llandudno Junction, turn to the left at Pensarn Bridge and then go through Mochdre, crossing the railway at the station into Colwyn Bay ($5\frac{1}{2}$ miles).

(2) Cross the bridge, then go through Marl to Pydew and thence by way of Landrillo to Colwyn Bay (6 miles).

DEGANWY.

Access.—By the Chester and Holyhead line of the L. & N.W.R. to Llandudno Junction, thence to Deganwy station on the branch line to Llandudno. Express services and through carriages are run between Deganwy and London in 5 hours, Birmingham in 4, Liverpool in 1 hour 50 minutes, Manchester in 2 hours, Bradford in 4½, Leeds in 3½, Sheffield in 3, and Derby in 5.

Amusements.—Bathing, boating, yachting, sea and river fishing, golfing, mountaineering; excursions by rail, steamer, motor or coach; first-class concerts and theatrical performances, etc., at Llandudno, only 5 minutes distant by train.

Banks.—*National Provincial and Union, London City and Midland.*

Bathing.—Safe, on a sandy beach, from tents and huts.

Boating and Yachting.—These are among the principal attractions of the place. Craft, from the open boat to the ten-ton smack, are on hire from 4s. per hour, including fishing tackle and bait. Special terms may be arranged for trips up the river. Rowing boats from 3s. per hour, after 3 hours 1s. 6d. per hour.

Private yachts have good berths on the west side of the river, and may there lie afloat at all states of the tide in full view of the shore, a hundred yards or so distant. The holding ground is good, and the site is sheltered from the prevailing westerly winds. A hard, shingly beach, running steeply down to dead low-water springs, makes landing particularly clean.

Distances. (By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham	114	Bettws-y-Coed	16½
Chester	46	Carnarvon	25
Liverpool	63	Colwyn Bay	5½
London	225	Llandudno	2
Manchester	86	Rhyl	16

Ferry.—Across the river to the Morfa, 3d.

Fishing.—Salmon, sea-trout, and brown trout, in the *Comey*. Other waters for fly-fishing are within easy reach of Deganwy. See also Introduction.

In the river there is good fishing for bass, plaice, and codling; at the Orme's Head (about an hour's sail), there are large pollack and conger, whiting and flatfish in quantity; crabs and lobsters abound, and from August to October mackerel visit the bay. There is an unlimited supply of mussels and soft crabs for bait.

Golf.—The *Carnarvonshire Golf Club* has its course on the Morfa, on the opposite side of the river. Terms: 2s. 6d. daily, 7s. 6d. weekly, 21s. monthly, yearly 30s.

On the warren between Deganwy and Llandudno is the fine 18-hole course of the *North Wales Golf Club*. Terms: 2s. 6d. daily, 10s. weekly, 30s. monthly.

On the top of the Orme is the 18-hole course of the *Great Orme Golf Club*. Day, 2s. 6d.; week, 10s. (Sunday play.)

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—Information respecting apartments, etc., will be supplied by the Secretary of the Deganwy Improvement Association. Two penny stamps should be enclosed.

Library.—Deganwy Free Public Library, at the east end of Station Road. Open on weekdays from 10 to 1 and 6 to 10, except on Wednesdays and Saturdays, when the hours are 10 to 1 and 2 to 10.

Local Government.—Deganwy is part of the Borough of Conway.

Motor-Bus Service.—*The Silver Motor Bus* runs every hour to Llandudno (5d.) Llanrhos (2d.), Conway (5d.), Bettws-y-Coed (3s. 5d.), Llandudno Junction (3d.), Llanrwst (2s. 9d.), Trefriw (2s. 4d.). Buses run twice daily to Penmaenmawr (1s. 3d.).

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays :—

All Saints' Church—8, 11 and 6.30. *Hymns Ancient and Modern.*

Bethel Wesleyan Chapel—11 a.m.

English Presbyterian, Victoria Drive, Llandudno Junction—11 and 6.30.

Roman Catholic, Conway—9 and 3.30.

Postal.—Post Office. Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays ; on Sundays, 8.30 to 10 a.m.

Water Supply.—Pure and abundant. Deganwy is supplied from the same source as Conway. Further particulars are included in the information respecting that town.

DEGANWY is a growing seaside resort on the east side of the estuary of the River Conway, two miles south of Llandudno, a position which gives it special attractions. Although within the bounds of the Borough of Conway, it is practically a village. Its inhabitants apply that term to it, and to the stranger Deganwy appears to have no connection with the ancient town with which it is linked municipally.

Deganwy faces south and south-west, and in that respect alone it would be acknowledged to have a most favourable aspect ; but part has the further advantage of being on sloping ground inclined at right angles to the sun's rays all the winter, a position which ensures it receiving during the cold season all the solar warmth possible. The site is also sheltered by low hills from east and north-east winds. And while the winter temperature is raised by the aspect, the slope of the ground, and the sheltering hills, the summer temperature is kept down by a refreshing breeze from the open sea, brought up twice every day by the incoming tide.

The testimony of the thermometer to the mildness of the winter in this region is unmistakable. Confirmation is afforded by the early appearance of not a few wild flowers, and by the cultivated shrubs and plants that flourish in the open air. In the gardens of Deganwy are seen the arbutus, aloe, berberis, escallonia, hydrangea, myrtle, New Zealand maiden-hair, skimmia and many others that in most parts of Britain require protection in the coldest months.

For a place on the west coast of Great Britain, "Sunny" Deganwy, as the village is usually called, has a remarkably small rainfall. This is attributed to its site being at the

north-east end of the Snowdonian range. The south-west winds have much of their moisture taken from them by the hills before they reach Deganwy, with the result that the average annual rainfall for a series of years is only 28'19 inches, and fog is very rare.

Like most of the watering-places of North Wales, Deganwy suffers through the railway hugging the coast. Happily, there has been left sufficient space between the line and the beach for a row of houses and a promenade.

The Marine Parade

differs from many of its kind in that its charm consists less in what can be seen upon it than in its outlook. In the immediate foreground is the river, here swiftly swirling in a channel narrowed by steep banks, and there spreading out into a placid, lake-like expanse, on the farther side of which is Conway, with its Castle and town walls touching the extremity of the picturesque Bridge that seems part and parcel of the ancient works. On one side of the town rises the lovely Benarth Wood, and coming forward on the other side, with protection and adornment, is the fir-clad headland of Bodlondeb; while behind the town, rising tier above tier, are the mountains of Snowdonia, the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn, 3,484 feet above sea-level, touching the sky.

More westward, and on a level with our feet, are the "wide turf-clad, gorse-sprinkled, sandy flats" of the Morfa. Behind them rises the long ridge of Conway mountain, which ends in the bold promontory of Penmaenbach. Then, as one goes down the shore of the estuary, the white waves are seen breaking over the sandy bar. Puffin Island is across the water, in the middle distance, behind it are the low hills of Anglesey, while to the right of it lie Red Wharf Bay and Point Lynas. Then we have a wide stretch of the Irish Sea, from which rises the noble headland of the Orme, behind Deganwy's little bathing bay and the sandhills of the Warren. And, as the day ends, the sinking sun adds a rare charm to the prospect, for glorious sunsets are a marked characteristic of Deganwy.

In the mind of one with eyes to see, who has stood here and gazed upon the scene ahead and on each hand, when the flowing tide has filled the estuary, and the summer sun, after bathing all things in its brightness, has spread gorgeous hues

over the western sky, there is no room for surprise at the words in which Mr. Arthur G. Bradley, in his *Highways and Byways of North Wales*, expresses his opinion of the prospect from Deganwy's Parade. "Were I doomed," he says, "to spend the rest of my life behind a single window, I would have that window, before all places I know of in Great Britain, on the foremost point of the dry, shingly, breezy, and above all sunny spot on which these houses stand."

Next to its shore, the choicest possession of Deganwy is—

Vaerdre Hill,

which rises immediately behind the village, and has upon its flat top two great masses of igneous rock, crowned by the remains of the once famous **Castle of Deganwy**, or Din-gonwy, "the Fortress on the Conway."

The way to the summit is up York Road and across **Ganneck Park**, the site of many charming residences. A sunk path, along which the latter part of the route runs, having been traversed, we are free to roam over the twin hills, through the kindness of Lord Mostyn, their owner. So we go to the foot of the second rock, and then turning left, to the hollow between the two hummocks, ascend the ancient approach to the Castle, and cross the earthworks which defended its courtyard. In the courtyard we turn left again, and ascending the steep pathway up the southern face of the larger hill, are led to the site of the Keep. From it there is a glorious prospect.

Deganwy Castle.

The first Castle of Deganwy is said to have been built by a Welsh prince early in the sixth century. It and the town were destroyed by lightning in 810. The Castle was rebuilt by a Norman, Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and was demolished by Llewelyn the Great. Once more it was restored by an Earl of Chester, and was finally destroyed by Llewelyn ap Gruffydd in the year 1262.

An army which King John led into Wales in 1211 encamped here, and was reduced to such distress that horse-flesh was gladly eaten. In the end the King was obliged to retreat. "He returned home, in a great rage, leaving the country full of dead bodies." Shortly afterwards, Deganwy Castle, and all the other castles held by the English between



[Conway.]

T. R. Hammond.]

DEGANWY.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

PONT-Y-PAIR, BETTWS-Y-COED.

[*Dundee.*

Conway and the Dee, fell into the possession of Llewelyn, who, it will be remembered, had married John's daughter Joan. About the year 1245, King Henry III, at the head of an immense army, paid a hostile visit to Deganwy, where the force remained nearly three months, "freezing for want of winter garments—lying encamped in great misery and distress for want of necessaries—exposed to great and frequent dangers and in great fear of private assaults and sudden excursions of their enemies."

Deganwy is in a district that abounds in—

Walks.

Innumerable footpaths, thoughtfully labelled for the guidance of strangers, are scattered over the countryside. Among the most popular rambles, after the ascent of Vaerdre Hill, are the following :—

Along the Warren to the Black Rocks, a group of seaweed-covered boulders in the direction of the Orme.

To the hill-tops of **Pydew** and **Pabo**, starting by the footpath below the Church, going through the Marl Park Estate, or across the fields to Marl Old Hall, and thence by the Nun's Steps.

To **Little Orme's Head**, across the Vaerdre to the village and ancient Church of Llanrhos, then through the Gloddaeth woods to Penrhyn-side, and so to the Head.

To **Conway Mountain**, a mile across the Morfa.

To **Conway Town**, along the Morfa and by the delightful public walk around the water-washed rocks of wooded Bodlondeb.

EXCURSIONS BY RAIL, ROAD, OR STEAMER.

Visitors at Deganwy can join the excursions arranged by the Llandudno Coaching Co. Their vehicles "pick up" in the village, as do also the cars of the Llandudno Motor Co. and the Automobile Touring Co. Many an enjoyable sea-trip can be had from Llandudno by the steamers of the North Wales Steamship Co.

Light-draught steamers leave the landing-stage at Deganwy daily for the following trip to Trefriw—

UP THE CONWAY RIVER.

Fares, 1s. 6d. single, 2s. 6d. return; second class, 1s. single, 2s. return.

The **Conway River** has its source in Llyn Conway, a small lake in the mountainous district where the counties of Merio-

neth, Denbigh and Carnarvon meet. It receives the waters of the rivers Machno, Cletwr, Lledr, and Llugwy, and some other smaller mountain streams. Through nearly the whole of its course the Conway forms the boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Carnarvon. Its extreme length is about 30 miles. It is navigable for about 14 miles, and is tidal for about 11. Midway in its beautiful valley is the town of Llanrwst. From the village of Trefriw, a little below Llanrwst, to its outlet, one mile below the town of Conway, is a large river navigable by vessels of 100 tons.

Throughout the trip, from the beginning until quite the end, there is something to interest and attract, new vistas of romantic scenery being revealed at every turn of the ever-winding river.

As the excursion is made by a large number of Llandudno visitors, it will be well to begin our description at the starting-point.

Opposite Deganwy is **Conway Morfa**, a sea-plain, much used as a camping-ground by the Territorial forces, and well known to golfers as the site of the Carnarvonshire Club links. On the farther side of the plain is **Conway Town Mountain**, rising to a height of some 800 feet. On the left, above **Deganwy**, is the peculiarly-shaped **Vaerdre Hill**, on which are the remains of Deganwy Castle.* As the boat proceeds, we get a fine view of **Conway Castle** and the bridges, while the wood-covered rock of Bodlondeb, on the right, also adds to the beauty of the scene.

Before the construction of the **Suspension Bridge** in 1826, the only means of communication between the banks of the river at this point was a ferry. On Christmas Day, 1806, the boat taking over the Irish mail was upset. On board were fifteen persons, including eight passengers travelling by the coach, the coachman, guard, a boy, and the boatmen. Only two of the number were saved.

Having passed under the bridges, we have, on the right, the well-wooded hill of **Benarth**; and looking back when the steamer has proceeded some distance, we get the best view of Conway Castle and town lying at the foot of the surrounding hills.

After the steamer has rounded Benarth we come to **Cymryd Point** on the right, and **Glan Conway** on the left, between which in olden times was a ford across the river. Having

rounded the point, we have before us a magnificent panorama of distant mountains, and quickly are abreast of a little farm, on the right, known as *Tyddin Cynal*.

By the side of a hedge running up from the opposite bank of the stream may be seen a **Cromlech**, consisting of five upright stones supporting a block 12 feet long, 8 feet broad and 4 feet thick, and weighing about 20 tons. Behind are two upright stones, each about 9 feet high, and some 6 feet apart. A short distance farther on the same side is *Meddiant Farm*, the residence for some years of Hugh Hughes, celebrated as a painter and wood engraver in the first half of the nineteenth century, and especially famed for his *Beauties of Cambria*, published in 1823.

Immediately afterwards we are abreast of the old house of *Hendrewaelod*, also on the left. About a mile farther we have, on the same side, *Bodnant Hall*, standing in its beautiful grounds, to which coaches drive twice a week from Llandudno and Colwyn Bay.

At **Tal-y-Cafn**, we pass under the bridge which some years ago replaced the large old-fashioned ferry-boat by which horses, carts, cattle and sheep, as well as human beings, were conveyed from one bank to the other. Beyond the bridge some rocks called the *Arrows* are passed, and then we may see, on the right, in the midst of gigantic yew-trees, the old **Church of Caerhŷn**, erected in one corner of the Roman fortress known as Conovium. From this point, the great half-circle of mountains on the right, towering range above range to the rounded summit of Carnedd Llewelyn (3,484 feet), offers a grand spectacle, especially towards sundown.

Two miles farther, and some little distance from the river, we have, on the right, the villages of **Tal-y-Bont** and **Llanbedr**, the summer quarters of many artists. Then we come to an extensive plain, on which some say Llewelyn encamped in 1282 on the eve of a battle with Edward I, the site of the conflict being between this spot and Cymryd Point. After long-continued rain the river overflows its banks, and this great tract is covered with water to the depth of several feet. On the hills to the right are the Falls of Porthlwyd and Dolgarrog. Here also are the works of the Aluminium Corporation, Ltd., the machinery being run by water turbines of the latest type, the water coming down to the works in the pipe line which can be seen on the face of the hill. Far away in the recesses

of the mountains are the lakes from which Llandudno, Conway and Colwyn Bay draw their water.

On the opposite side, a wooded hill called **Porth Hywel Goch** (the Gate of Red Howell) rises almost from the river bank. According to tradition, a giant who lived in this locality was accustomed to stand with one foot on the summit of this hill, and the other on the hills above Dolgarrog, whilst he washed himself in the stream that flowed between.

The river narrows very rapidly as we get near Trefriw, nestling at the foot of wooded hills.

Among the forms of life which add interest to the voyage are sheldrakes, cormorants, herons, and many rare birds.

Although we may not see the **Conway Mussels**, they deserve a passing thought. "There are two kinds of mussels found in the Conway, from which pearls are obtained—*Mya margaritifera* and the *Mytilus edulis*. Those of the former species are procured high up the river, above Trefriw, and pearls scarcely inferior to the Oriental ones are occasionally found in them." So said Canon Williams in his *History of Aberconwy*, published in 1835. It may be remembered that Spenser in his *Faerie Queene* alludes to the Conway pearls, and Sir Richard Wynne, of Gwydyr, presented one to Catherine, the consort of Charles II, which is still supposed to be in one of the royal crowns.

The late Sir Robert Vaughan appeared at Court with a button and loop set with pearls from the Conway, and in connection with the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria the then Mayor of Conway was presented with a gold breastpin set with Conway pearls.

The salt-water mussel is abundant near the mouth of the river, and many persons make a livelihood by collecting the fish, which are for the most part sent to English markets.

The boats make only a short stay at **Trefriw**, but as a rule passengers have time to lunch or take tea.

Within ten minutes' walk of the landing-stage at Trefriw are the **Fairy Falls**. The route is southward along the main road to a signpost at a turning on the right, from which a slight ascent leads to a bridge commanding a fine view of the falls.

Trefriw and its surroundings are fully described in another section.

PENMAENMAWR.

Access.—By the L. & N.W. main line. From London in 5½ hours; Birmingham, 4; Leeds, 4½; Manchester, 2½; Liverpool, 2½; Holyhead, 1½.

Amusements.—Boating, bathing, and mountain-climbing. Concerts and dramatic entertainments in the Promenade Pavilion; moving pictures in the Oxford Palace; outdoor entertainments by pierrots. The Young Men's Institute, containing two billiard tables, is open to visitors on payment of sixpence weekly.

Banks.—*National Provincial and Union* and *Lloyds*.

Bathing.—Perfectly safe. The beach is of firm sand and slopes gradually. Family bathing is allowed.

Boating.—The boats are inspected and licensed. Rowing boats, 2s. an hour; with boatman, 3s.

Distances. (By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bangor . .	10½	Conway . .	4½	Llandudno . .	9	Llanfairfechan	2½

(By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bangor	10	Chester	56	Llandudno	9
Bettws-y-Coed . .	20	Colwyn Bay . . .	9½	Liverpool	65
Birmingham . .	125	Conway	4½	London	230
Carnarvon	18½	Llanfairfechan . .	2½	Manchester	90

Drainage.—A modern and efficient system has been adopted at great cost.

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—The sea-fishing is excellent. For fresh-water fishing, *see* Llanfairfechan and the Introduction.

Golfing.—A 9-hole course in a valley, with the sea in the foreground, 10 minutes' walk from the centre of the town. It is well drained and is dry all the year round. The hazards are natural and varied. There is a well-equipped clubhouse. Visitors' fees: a day, 2s.; week, 6s.; fortnight, 10s.; three weeks, 12s. 6d.; month, 15s.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Inquiries.—These may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, The Town Improvement Association. A stamp should be enclosed.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. Seiriol's—8, 11 and 6.

St. Gwynan's (at Dwygyfylchi)—Holy Communion, 2nd Sunday in the month at 11.15; also during August at 8 a.m. Evening prayer and sermon every Sunday at 3.30.

St. David's—11.15 during August.

Roman Catholic (Our Lady of the Rosary)—Holy Communion, 8; Mass, with Instruction, 10.30. Evening service at 6.

Congregational, Wesleyan, and Presbyterian Churches—at 11 and 6.30.

Baptist—11.

Population.—4,042.

Post Office.—Pant'rafon, Conway Road.

Tennis, etc.—Tennis and Croquet, near the Club-house on the Golf Course.

(Charges for tennis and croquet, hour, 6d. Golf members 3d. an hour. At the Ferubrook Road Tennis Club, 4s. a week, 12s. a month.)

Water Supply pure, abundant, and constant.

PENMAENMAWR is one of the pleasant, quiet seaside resorts of North Wales. Situated in a beautiful valley noted for its fertility, and measuring some three miles in length by a mile in breadth at its widest part, it acquired its name, literally "the head of the great rock," from the precipitous headland adjacent on the west, a rock 1,500 feet high, rising almost perpendicularly from the sea, and forming the northern termination of the Snowdonian range. Unfortunately for lovers of beauty, this headland is composed of stone having a commercial value, and consequently its sides are scarred by quarries. The workmen mainly reside at the foot of the mountain, in a portion of the village known as **Penmaenan**.

At the eastern extremity of the valley is a less lofty headland bearing the name of **Penmaenbach**, "the little stone-head," and in its vicinity is the oldest portion of the village. It is called **Dwygyfylehi**, a name signifying "the place of the twin semicircles," and giving an accurate description of the parish, the conformation of which corresponds exactly to two semicircles side by side, as may be seen by taking up a position on the seashore opposite Trwyn-y-Wylfa, which is about the middle of the parish.

About midway between the two extremities lies **Penmaenmawr** proper, stretching for a considerable distance along the main road, and straggling in irregular terraces and detached and semi-detached villas up the hillsides. As is the case at most of the resorts along this part of the Welsh coast, the railway runs between the sea and the village, but by reason of the elevation of the site of Penmaenmawr the line does not block the view, which is charmingly varied and extensive. On the north is the sea, with Puffin Island and the north of Anglesey to the west; on the north-east the rugged rocks of Penmaenbach, Great Orme's Head and the pine-clad hills above Pendyffryn Hall; on the south-east the hill of Moel Llys, with its many paths and its carpet of heather and bilberry plants; on the east the Fairy Glen and the Sychnant Pass, while between the two hills, each over 1,000 feet high, is a beautiful valley with its brook, its woodland scenery, its pleasant country lanes, and its venerable parish church nestling in the trees.

The vital statistics of the district indicate a remarkable absence of sickness. In a recent year the death-rate was only 8·3. The healthiness of the town attests the efficiency of

the system of drainage, which has been designed in keeping with the development of the place.

Equally satisfactory is the water supply. It is obtained from the slope of Tal-y-Fan mountain, where, at an elevation of 1,070 feet above sea-level, two large reservoirs have been constructed of a capacity sufficient for the needs of the resident and visiting population. The catchment area is the property of the District Council, and is under their sole control. The water is supplied at high pressure under the constant-service system, and its purity is above suspicion.

Its sheltered position gives the spot a genial climate, as is attested by the myrtles, gigantic fuchsia-bushes and other shrubs and flowers that abound, while a palm-tree has attained a healthy and vigorous growth out of doors, and has flowered well during several consecutive years. Yet the air in summer is bracing and invigorating. The combination of mountain and sea-breezes renders the atmosphere exceedingly light, refreshing, and exhilarating.

In 1867 Mr. Gladstone laid the corner stone of **St. Seiriol's Church**, which stands in the modern village, and shortly before his death he formally opened a new thoroughfare, **Paradise Road**, leading from the station. At the head of the road so intimately connected with the great statesman's memory stands a bronze **Bust of Mr. Gladstone**, subscribed for by the inhabitants and others. It is mounted on an obelisk of Aberdeen granite, which bears the inscription:—

"Gladstone—Statesman, Orator, Scholar—29th December, 1809,
to 19th May, 1898."

"Erected by Public Subscription, 1899."

To Mr. Gladstone the village was "dear old Penmaenmawr," and "the most charming watering-place in Wales." Writing, in 1860, to the Duchess of Sutherland, he said, "We are exceedingly happy at Penmaenmawr. . . . I do not know whether you are acquainted with the Welsh coast and interior; but I am sure you would think it well worth knowing, both for the solitary grandeur of the Snowdon group and for the widely diffused and almost endless beauty of detail. It is a kind of landscape jewellery." Speaking at Holyhead in November, 1877, Mr. Gladstone described Penmaenmawr as "that beautiful, and I may say almost unrivalled watering-place." In 1882 he said: "The health

and strength which it has pleased God to give me during the past twenty years I owe in no small degree to the salubrity and fresh breezes and habits of life prevailing at Penmaenmawr." He bore similar testimony in 1896 on the occasion of his last visit to the town.

During many years Sir James Paget, the eminent surgeon, spent his summer holidays in the parish. On one occasion he said, "As I lay on the hill this afternoon and evening, it seemed to me one of the most pleasant places in the world for resting on, and thinking of either great things or nothing. On the whole, I think Penmaenmawr the most charming seaside place I have seen. The union of sea-scenery and of all variety of mountain views is incomparable."

The beach is an expanse of clean, firm sand, with a fringe of pebbles. It is bordered by an asphalted **Promenade**, a mile long, well supplied with jetties, seats, and ornamental shelters, and illuminated at night by electric lamps, the current being obtained from the quarry works. There is also a **Pavilion** where entertainments and concerts are given occasionally. It was built in 1914, and seats about 300. As the water never recedes very far, safe bathing may be enjoyed at all states of the tide, and the bay is equally favourable for boating. Turning inland, an hour's climb takes one to a tableland having an elevation of 1,200 feet, and commanding an extensive panorama.

There is a tradition that the site of the bay was once a tract of fertile land dotted with dwellings, and there is a legend which tells how one of the inhabitants was a maid of high degree who loved and was beloved by the son of a house at feud with hers, but a bard foretold that the two families would never be united until eels came of their own accord to her father's cellar, so that there seemed no possibility of the lovers ever marrying. But one day there was a sudden inrush of the sea over the smiling land, and only with great difficulty did the maiden escape to higher ground. Some say that she alone was saved; others that some of her relatives escaped also. By reason of that flood a bold projecting spur midway in the vale bears the name of Trwyn-y-Wylfa, or the **Weeping Point**. At very low tides the remains of the ancient mansion, known as *Llys Helig*, can be seen from the shore and it is possible to step from a boat on to the ruins of the building. In 1909 squared stones were raised from

[Penmaenmawr]

PENMAENMAWR, FROM THE "WEeping POINT."

Hamilton Foyne,]

Penmaenmawr.



[Reigate.

THE SYCHNANT PASS.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

the spot. The site of the remains is a favourite haunt of conger eel fishers.

The railway pierces right through Penmaenmawr and Penmaenbach mountains by means of tunnels. The high-road to Bangor and Holyhead runs along its side at a considerable height above it and the sea.

EXCURSIONS FROM PENMAENMAWR.

The walks in the immediate neighbourhood of Penmaenmawr are numerous and highly attractive to those who are fair hill climbers.

1. **The Fairy Glen** (*entrance fee, 4d.*). This is situated midway between Conway and Penmaenmawr, and is a choice bit of scenery—waterfalls, boulders, ferns, and overhanging trees making a charming spot.

To reach the lower end pass to the right of the Mountain View Hotel and follow the old Conway road for a mile and a half, and then, just short of a bridge, turn to the right.

The upper end, marked by a flagstaff in a break in the boundary wall, may be reached by striking off to the left from the eastern end of the Jubilee Walk (*see below*), or from the top of the Green Gorge.

2. **The Jubilee Walk.** This is a promenade cut across the breast of **Foel Llys** (*Anglicé* the Bilberry Hill), an imposing mountain, 1,181 feet high, at the back of the village, from which the view is grand and extensive. The visitor who frequents the hills will soon discover that there are several routes by which this pleasant walk can be reached. We will briefly indicate three:—

(a) The most direct route is by the lane leading to the Green Gorge (*see No. 3*). Two stone pillars mark the beginning of the path from this direction, and will be a sufficient guide as soon as they are in sight.

(b) The opposite end of the walk can be reached by following the old (the upper) Conway Road for some three-quarters of a mile. Here the road forks, and leaving it you follow a mountain road to the right, and are led to a point from which the upper entrance to the Fairy Glen can be plainly seen away on the left. Continuing to ascend a grassy path you will ere long see the Jubilee Walk on the right.

(c) This end of the walk can be also gained by following a winding path that starts from the vicinity of the lower entrance to the Fairy Glen.

3. **The Green Gorge.** Pass at the back of the Mountain View Hotel, and almost immediately turn up Groesffordd

Lane (the first on the right). It is very long and in parts steep. At the upper end is a gate, through which pass, and the Green Gorge is straight before you.

4. **The Druids' Circle.** This is on the moorland at the back of the village. It is about 1,200 feet above the sea-level, and consists of a dozen stones some 8 feet high inter-mixed with smaller stones. The nearest way ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles) is by Gilfach Road, in which turn to the left by Cwm Road, in which there will presently be seen on the right a rough road which must be followed to Graiglwyd Road on the left. Go up it for about 100 yards to a road leading to Graiglwyd Farm, through the precincts of which you pass. The way is then unmistakable, signposts clearly indicating it. The Circle, however, is a little to the left of the spot pointed to by the indicator, immediately beyond a stile just below the plateau containing the stones.

The Circle can also be reached *viâ* the Green Gorge by following the cart-track from that to the right, or by following the second of the routes to the Jubilee Walk, and then, instead of turning to the right for the walk, continuing along the green road, and so passing by the back of Foel Lllys.

A short distance west of the Circle is a smaller collection of stones.

5. **Llangelynin Old Church** (3 miles.) The route is through the Green Gorge, and then to the left and over a stile from which the path runs across the Fairy Glen stream to a white cottage, a short distance beyond which the Church will become visible. It is said to have been built in the year 1350, stands 927 feet above the sea-level, and is used only for a 3 p.m. Sunday service about three times during the summer. The keys are kept at a cottage near the church.

6. **Ascent of Tal-y-Fan.** The summit is 2,000 feet above the sea. It may be reached by striking across the tableland from the Druids' Circle, the time required for the walk between the two points being about three-quarters of an hour. But a better route will be found by making for the white cottage mentioned in the last route, and then ascending the hill (Cefn Maen Amor) on the slopes of which the cottage stands; thence keeping along the ridge until two cottages in a hollow are reached, and the final ascent begins. To the right of the cottages is an upright stone, called for some unknown reason the *Stone of Games*. The summit of Tal-y-Fan is marked by two cairns, and by this route is about 4 miles from Penmaenmawr.

7. **The Sychnant Pass.** This will be reached by following the old road between Penmaenmawr and Conway. It is

near the lower entrance to the Fairy Glen, and rises to a height of over 500 feet. On the right is a cliff in the vicinity of which a fine echo can be awakened. Above the cliff, to the left, is a path that will lead over Conway Mountain into the town of Conway, and should be taken in preference to the rest of the high-road by pedestrians bound for the town.

8. **Ascent of Penmaenmawr Mountain.** This may be accomplished with comparative ease even by ladies. The most direct ascent is from Chapel Street, Penmaenan. Another route is up the Green Gorge and by way of the Red Farm, where refreshments can be obtained. The farm is near the Druids' Circle, and the way from it is indicated by finger-posts. The easiest route, however, is identical with that to the Druids' Circle, until reaching the cart-track beyond the stile near the stones. This track should be followed to a tumulus, then bear to the right towards a corner of a wall, and then to the left so as to pass along the right slope of a small mound. A white cottage not far below the summit is the next point to make for. The way lies through its grounds, and here milk and mineral waters can be obtained.

The highest point of the mountain is 1,550 feet above the sea, and the view therefrom is exceedingly picturesque and very extensive. When the sky is clear the prospect includes portions of nearly half the Welsh counties, Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Cumberland Hills, and parts of Cheshire and Lancashire. The view of the Irish Channel is particularly pleasing. The summit was the site of the ancient British fort of **Dinas Penmaen**, or *Braich y Ddinas*, which occupied the whole top of the hill.

It is feared that all trace of the work will soon disappear through the site being quarried. The fortress was immortalized by the genius of Lord Lytton in his *Harold*, as the scene of the base betrayal of Griffith ap Llewelyn.

By the side of Lord Lytton's word-picture of the fortress may be set the quaint and graphic description of it, written in the reign of Charles I (1625-49) and appearing in a publication entitled *An Ancient Survey of Penmaenmawr*, by Sir John Gwynn of Gwedyr. In modernized spelling it runs thus :—

“On the top of Penmaenmawr stands a high strong rocky hill, called Braich y Ddinas, whereupon is to be seen the ruinous walls of a strong and invincible fortification, compassed with a treble wall, and within every wall there are to be seen the foundation of at least a hundred towers, all round, and of equal bigness, in breadth some six yards every way within the walls; the walls of this same Dinas were in most places about three yards thick. This Castle when it stood was impregnable, and had no way to offer any assault

unto it, the hill being high, rocky and perpendicular, and the walls very strong. . . . By tradition we do receive it from our forefathers that this was the *ultimum refugium*, the strongest, surest, and safest refuge and place of defence that the ancient Britons had in all Snowdon to defend themselves from the incursions and inroads of their enemies, for the like place so strong, so impregnable, so defensive, is not to be found in all Snowdon ; and besides, the greatness and largeness of the work sheweth that it was a princely and royal fortification, strengthened both by nature and workmanship, seated on the top of one of the highest mountains in Snowdon, near the sea, and in the midst of the best and fertilest soil in all Carnarvonshire."

9. **To Bwlch-y-deu-faen.** Walk up the Green Gorge and past the Druids' Circle, and continue a half a mile farther, where a signpost directs to the Bwlch, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. The walk may be continued to Tal-y-Cafn, in the Conway Valley. See under Llanfairfechan.

Other Walks from Penmaenmawr.

To Penmaenbach, along the new Conway Road, 2 miles ; Llanfairfechan, along the road, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, by the Druids' Circle, 5 miles ; Aber Falls, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles ; Y Foel Fras, a flat summit of the Snowdonian range, 3,091 feet high, about 4 hours' walk ; Carnedd Llewelyn, next in height to Snowdon, the elevation being 3,484 feet, 5 hours ; Roe Wen, a village on the L. & N.W. Railway Co.'s motor route between Conway and Trefriw, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles ; Trefriw, famed for its mineral springs, 11 miles.

EXCURSIONS BY COACH AND RAIL.

Chairs-à-bancs and other conveyances run to Ogwen Lake, a trip that inclues Lord Penrhyn's model village, the pass of Nant Ffrancon and Idwal Lake.

To Aber Waterfalls.

Seats can be booked on the Llandudno coaches.

LLANFAIRFECHAN,

Access.—By the main line of the L. & N.W.R. between Chester and Holyhead. Through expresses, during the season, from London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.

Amusements.—Mountain climbing, boating and bathing; tennis, bowls and croquet in the Public Gardens, and fishing. Concerts, theatricals, etc., in the Town Hall (seating 800); pierrots on the Promenade, and in the evening in the Promenade Pavilion

Banks.—*Lloyds, London City and Midland.*

Bathing.—Perfectly safe on a firm, sandy beach. Bathing tents, 6s. 6d. a week.

Boating.—There is a good choice of boats for rowing, sailing or sea-fishing. A model yacht lake is free.

Distances. (By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aber Falls	4½	Conway	7	Penmaenmawr . .	2½
Bangor	8	Llandudno	11		

(By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aber	2	Carnarvon	15½	Llandudno	12
Bangor	7½	Chester	53	London	233
Bettws-y-Coed . .	23	Colwyn Bay	12½	Manchester	93
Birmingham . . .	128	Liverpool	68	Penmaenmawr . .	2½

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—Fresh-water fishing in the Three Streams, Lake Dulyn and the Aber Lake (no licence required, but Lord Penrhyn's permission must be obtained). Sea-fishing is very good, especially at the "Swash," a mile out. Tackle can be hired and bait purchased of the boatmen.

Golf.—The old course has been ploughed up. The making of a new one a short distance from the town, in the direction of Aber, is contemplated.

Hotels.—*See Introduction.*

Inquiries.—Information respecting apartments, etc., will be supplied by the Hon. Secretary of the Town Improvement Association. A penny stamp should be enclosed.

Market.—On the Park Road, Tuesday and Friday.

Model Yacht Pond.—Prize competitions are held for visitors' children.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

Christ Church—8, 10.45, 3 (children) and 6. Organ recitals weekly.

Parish Church—11.15 during August.

Congregational—10.45 and 6.

Presbyterian—10.30 and 6.

Wes'ayan—10.30 and 6.

Baptist—10.30.

Population.—2,973.

Post Office.—Village Road.

Tennis, Croquet, Bowls, at Victoria Gardens, on the Promenade. Tennis, 3d. an hour; 4s. a week. Bowls, 2d. an hour; 2s. a week. Croquet, 2d. an hour, 2s. a week; Tennis tournament in August.

Water Supply.—Pure, abundant and constant.

LLANFAIRFECHAN, the "Little Church of St. Mary," is a well-wooded village beautifully situated between Penmaenmawr Mountain on the east and the plantations and park of Bryn-y-Neuadd on the west. In front is a fine sea-view across the entrance of the Menai Strait, and behind is mountain scenery. Thus the fascination of scaling peaks can be combined with the charms of sea-bathing, sea-fishing and boat trips.

The population is so scattered about the hills and valleys as to lead the casual visitor to suppose there are hardly any inhabitants in the place, and those who see Llanfairfechan only from the train are apt to fall into the mistake of thinking that the few houses near the growing esplanade constitute the village, but the population numbers nearly 3,000, and the village proper nestles snugly in a rift between the hills, half a mile inland.

The hills which shut in the shore and protect from the east wind stand sufficiently far inland for their majestic proportions to be seen and admired without the observer being oppressed with their too immediate proximity. Yet they are near enough for the ascent to begin at the door of the village post-office, and from any of them views of great beauty and variety may be had.

To quote the words of an appreciative visitor, "The magnificent mountains, which divide the honours of the place with the sea, seem to stand back conscious of their importance and grandeur, and are a never-failing source of admiration and interest. The nearest mountain to the beach raises its head some 1,500 feet towards the clouds, and its neighbours, enriched with woods and cultivated farmsteads, are little less majestic and imposing."

As the site has a gentle slope towards the sea, no great amount of moisture can remain upon the surface. Consequently the air is dry and bracing, and through the shelter afforded by neighbouring hills the climate is genial, as is demonstrated by fuchsias, myrtles, and other tender plants and shrubs—including the pale butterwort, a plant very sensitive to cold—flourishing all the year round in the open air.

The average winter temperature at Llanfairfechan compares favourably with that of resorts in the south of England, and is even a few degrees higher than some of its North Wales

rivals, while fogs are quite unknown. As a medical man has said, "The combination of sea, mountains and woods at Llanfairfechan makes it a pleasant holiday resort, while the climate, especially in winter, is most suitable for those chest cases which are unable to stand a more rigorous air."

The late Bishop of Bangor bore strong testimony to the worth of Llanfairfechan as a holiday resort. "I do not think it possible," he said, "to find a more suitable place than Llanfairfechan, both on account of the lovely sea and mountain air, and its central position for touring."

"The bright air will inspire the weakest with strength to ramble up the winding paths to breezy heights," is the dictum of a London M.D. Until they have experienced the effect of the air, there are bath-chairs drawn by quiet little ponies, ready to take invalids and others to the higher ground, a convenience which is a special feature of Llanfairfechan. Great benefit from the mountain air is invariably obtained.

That prime necessity of a health-resort, an abundant supply of pure water, has been assured by the construction of a reservoir on one of the neighbouring hills, at a height of 1,000 feet above sea-level. Into it flow unpolluted streams from unfailing springs.

Not less important is the drainage. To secure its efficiency, a costly scheme was carried out a few years ago.

The sea-front at Llanfairfechan is unpretentious, but the bathing is safe and good.

A Promenade extends from Penmaen Bridge to the mouth of the river. A continuation, for pedestrians only, known as the **Embankment Walk**, is reached by crossing the bridge. At the end of the embankment a white gate marks the level railway crossing. The return may be made by the Aber Road. No more striking and varied views can be obtained of the mountain panorama than those from the Embankment.

Adjoining the Promenade are the **Victoria Gardens**, a public recreation ground containing tennis courts, croquet lawn and bowling greens, and just across the river is another large recreation ground eight acres in extent, the greater part of which has been converted into allotments. Cricket can be played in the remainder. Adjoining is a **Lake** (recently enlarged and otherwise improved) for the sailing of model yachts. It is regularly used by members of Liverpool and

Wirral Model Yacht Clubs, and regattas are organized for the toy vessels of visitors' children. The lake, the extensive sandy beach, the green alongside the Promenade (on which games with soft balls may be played) and the absence of motor-cars on the front, combine to make Llanfairfechan a particularly pleasant and safe seaside resort for children.

Of the buildings calling for notice, the chief are the two churches. **St. Mary's**, the parish church, stands on a knoll above the village. With only a slight exception the services are conducted in Welsh. **Christ Church**, situated near the cross-roads, is a handsome structure with an attractive interior, containing an elegant screen, an alabaster reredos and one of the finest organs in North Wales. (Recitals weekly during the season.) One of the larger residences is the **Clergy House of Rest**, the property of the London Poor Clergy Fund. Another building, the presence of which is strong testimony to the salubrity of the place, is the **Heath Memorial Convalescent Home**, erected at a cost of £20,000.

Walks from Llanfairfechan.

Llanfairfechan resembles Penmaenmawr in being the centre of many pleasant walks. Except where it borders on the sea, it is surrounded by charming rural scenery, and visitors desirous of enjoying the many beauties of the district may wander freely almost everywhere. One of the most charming spots for a ramble is the **Terrace Walk**, overlooking the valley of Nant-y-felin. It extends for about a mile along the foot of Carreg Fawr Mountain, the hill at the back of the village. The views are very fine, especially those of the Menai Strait.

1. **Ascent of Penmaenmawr Mountain.** Starting from the cross-roads, go along Park Road, with the Plas Farm on the right. About a quarter of a mile past the farm the road forks. Take the right road, which leads upwards through Hanar Farm to the summit. The path is broad and well defined, and cannot be missed.

2. **Carreg-fawr** ("Big Rock"), or **Llanfairfechan Hill** (1,167 feet), lies at the back of the village, from which it can be reached in less than an hour. One route crosses the stream near the Llanfair Inn, and half a mile beyond the higher of two churches, turns up a lane near two cottages and ascends the hill to Bryngoleu Farm, whence it ascends



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LLANFAIRFECHAN.

[Llanfairfechan.



[Darlington.

ABER BRIDGE AND MOUNTAIN.

Slater.]

steeply to the right, and after passing through an iron gate reaches the open moorland.

3. **To Aber Lake.** It is a most interesting walk to Aber Lake by passing over Carreg-fawr towards Drum (*drim*) and returning down the valley to Aber or by the site of the old golf links to Llanfairfechan. The Drum may be climbed and then Y Foel Fras (3091) without prolonging the outing unduly. Magnificent views of Snowdon, etc., are had from Y Foel Fras.

4. **Dinas** ("Hill Fort"), a hill just over 1,000 feet high, rises from the right bank of the Llanfair stream, about 2 miles from the sea. On the summit are the remains of ancient earthworks. Follow the road along the west bank of the stream until Tyn-y-Llwyfan Farm is reached. Thence follow the lane for about half a mile and then turn up to the right.

5. **The Meeting of the Three Streams.** Follow the road along the west bank of the Llanfair stream, and a short distance past Dinas is the junction of the streams. It is about a mile and a half from the station. With its winding paths and thick foliage, the spot is an agreeable retreat on a hot day.

6. **Bwlch-y-Ddeufaen**, a pass some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of Llanfairfechan, owes its name to the presence of two stones near the highest point (1,403 feet). They are about 9 feet high and 16 feet in circumference.

Follow the Carreg-fawr route as far as the gate beyond Bryngoleu Farm, and thence proceed, mainly by a bridle track, across the southern ridge of Carreg-fawr. On meeting a similar track turn to the left, and at the end of a few hundred yards the track from Aber will be reached hard by a wall. Thence there is a fairly straight track to the summit of the pass, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. You are now on the old Roman Road that ran from Aber to Conovium. The walk can be continued along this road, and the descent made to the Conway Valley. At Tal-y-Cafn, five and a half miles from the Bwlch, the train can be taken to Llandudno Junction, and thence to Llanfairfechan.

7. **Aber Falls**, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles by road from Llanfairfechan, and 3 miles from Aber Station. Those who go by the high-road can cut off a corner by taking a footpath on the left, on the farther side of the bridge near Aber.

The village of **Aber** lies at the entrance to a deep and romantic glen, much frequented by picnic parties. Vehicles can proceed as far as Pont Newydd, a mile and a quarter from the station. The rest of the distance must be covered on foot. Refreshments can be obtained at a cottage across the bridge and at a cottage some little distance short of the falls. For a few yards the route is to the right of the stream. It then crosses a footbridge and continues on that side.

There are two falls, a short distance apart. The first is much superior, and after heavy rain is a magnificent spectacle.

As its shore is not adapted for either bathing or walking, the village of Aber has not become a seaside resort but remains a very primitive place. Its full name is Aber-gwyn-gregin, said to signify the Mouth of the Stream of the White Shells.

In the village is an artificial mound, called the **Mwd**, on which once stood a castle built by Llewelyn the Great, Prince of Wales, who married Joan, daughter of King John. It was in this castle that the last native Prince of Wales, Llewelyn ap Gryffydd, received and declined the summons of Edward I to attend the English Parliament at Westminster. Attendance meant the voluntary surrender of the independence of Wales. The Prince's refusal was soon followed by the conquest of the Principality.

According to a very old tradition, Llewelyn the Great, having taken William de Braose prisoner at the siege of Montgomery, held him captive at Aber, where he won the heart of the Princess Joan, who for reasons of state and not through love had been wedded to Llewelyn. De Braose was ransomed before the prince knew what had been stolen from him, but by means of an invitation to an Easter banquet, Llewelyn got De Braose into his power again, and then, having hanged him, led his wife to a window from which she could see the suspended body.

The return to Llanfairfechan from the falls should be made across the hills. Retrace your steps as far as the bridge. Cross it, and continue for nearly half a mile to a gap in the wall on the left. Take the footpath through this. A generous supply of signposts makes the way from here unmistakable. This is one of the best short walks in the district, the mountain views being even finer if the route be reversed.

8. **Dulyn Lake**, due south of Bwlch-y-Ddeufaen, from which it may be reached by an hour's walk. It is nearly surrounded by precipices from 500 to 600 feet in height, and is in the midst of one of the wildest and most gloomy parts of Wales. Adding to the weirdness of the scene is the colour of the water, which is black, as is indicated by the name of the lake.

If there is any foundation for an ancient legend concerning Lake Dulyn, visitors who desire fine weather must be careful where they spill water drawn from the lake.

The old story runs thus :—

“There is a lake in the mountains of Snowdon called Dulyn, in a rugged valley encircled by steep rocks. This lake is extremely black and its fish are deformed and unsightly, having large heads and small bodies. No wild swans are ever seen alighting upon it (such as are on all the other lakes in Snowdon), nor ducks nor any bird whatever. And there is a causeway of stones leading into this lake ; and if any one goes along this causeway, even when it is hot sunshine, and throws water so as to wet the farthest stone, which is called the Red Altar, it is a chance if it do not rain before night.”

9. **To Carnedd Llewelyn and Carnedd Dafydd**. Many visitors at Llanfairfechan climb over the mountains to Carnedd Llewelyn and Carnedd Dafydd, which overlook Ogwen Lake and are next in height to Snowdon. There is no difficulty in finding the way, as the path is fairly well defined. The route leads over Carreg Fawr and then along the side of the neighbouring heights to Drum (*drim*) at an elevation exceeding 2,000 feet. After a short descent to the foot of **Foel Fras**, there is a stiff climb to its summit (3,091 feet), from which Carnedd Llewelyn will be seen almost directly ahead. The path now crosses a plateau, keeping at first to the right to avoid swampy places, and then passes over to the left to the summit of **Carnedd Llewelyn** (3,484 feet). **Carnedd Dafydd** (3,426 feet) is reached by crossing the ridge, called the Saddle, connecting the two mountains, and the descent is then to the right to Bethesda, whence the return to Llanfairfechan can be made by rail. The extensive views obtained during the walk in clear weather are among the most magnificent in Wales.

10. **To the Druids' Circle, Fairy Glen, Dwygyfylechi, Green**

Gorge, Jubilee Walk, and Llangelynin Old Church. Take the village road past the Post Office. Turn up Mount Road, on the left, and continue along it, skirting Penmaenmawr Mountain, until the highest point of the road is gained. The **Druids' Circle** is on a small hill two hundred yards ahead, and slightly to the right. After viewing the Circle, join the road, and continue a short distance until signposts direct you to the places mentioned. (For description see Penmaenmawr chapter.)

From the Fairy Glen the return may be made along the main road.

The railway to Penmaenmawr practically adds the pedestrian excursions from that village to those in the immediate vicinity of Llanfairfechan.

II. To Nant Ffrancon Pass. No one should leave North Wales without seeing this. By taking train to Bethesda, the walk each way is reduced to five miles.

Excursions by Coach and Rail.

The following are some of the drives that can be taken by local brakes :—

To Conway *viâ* the Fairy Glen and returning *viâ* Penmaenbach Rocks, the Charlesworth Gap, and the Coast Road, 16 miles.

Llandegai, Penrhyn Slate Quarries, Nant Ffrancon Pass and Lake Ogwen, 30 miles.

Sea Trips.

Good sailing boats can be hired for trips to Beaumaris, Penmon, and Puffin Island. The last-named is only about 5 miles distant in a straight line, but the boatmen reckon it 7 miles.

ENVIRONS OF BANGOR



BANGOR.

Access.—By the main line of the L. & N.W.R.

By fast steamers from Liverpool, Llandudno, Beaumaris and Carnarvon.

Banks.—*National Provincial and, Union, Lloyds, London City and Midland, Barclays.*

Bathing.—The Siliwen Baths near Garth Point—Ladies, 6d.; girls, 3d.; gentlemen, 6d.; boys, 3d. Indoor Sea-Water Baths—Hot, 1s.; tepid, 1s. shower, 6d. Bathing safe at all times of the day.

Boats.—*Sailing boats.*—For a whole boat for one hour, 3s.; and for every half-hour afterwards, 1s. *Rowing Boats.*—For a whole boat for one hour, 2s.; and for every half-hour afterwards, 1s.

Boats plying at stated hours for pleasure, each passenger, 6d. per hour.

For boats to Britannia Bridge, 5s.; Beaumaris, 4s.; Carnarvon, 12s. 6d.; Menai Bridge, 3s.; Puffin Island, 10s. Half-fare back in all cases. Fare for detention, 6d. for every half-hour after the first hour.

'Buses.—Motor 'buses run several times a day all the year round between the Railway Station and Beaumaris. Fare, 1s. 6d., with intermediate fares to Garth Ferry and Menai Bridge.

Clubs.—The Masonic building on the High Street houses also the *Conservative Union Association* (Working Men's Club), and the *Carnarvon and Arlsey Conservative Club*. Visitors, members of other Conservative Clubs, can become affiliated members.

Distances by Rail:—

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bethesda	5	Holyhead	24½	London	240
Bettws-y-Coed . .	25	Liverpool	76	Manchester . . .	100
Birmingham . .	135	Llanberis	17½	Menai Bridge . .	1½
Carnarvon	8½	Llandudno	18	Penmaenmawr . .	10
Chester	60	Llanfairfechan . .	7½	Rhyl	30
Conway	14½	Llanwrst	26½		

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Ferry across the Strait.—Half-hourly from the pier head to a point in Anglesey 2 miles south of Beaumaris. Fare, 3d. each way. The Corporation steamer plies hourly between Bangor pier and Beaumaris pier. Fare, 1s.

Fishing.—Ogwen and Idwal Lakes, the Ogwen and Aber Rivers, and scores of other streams and lakes are within easy reach. The deep-sea fisher finds excellent sport in the Menai Strait with bass, bream, conger-eel, pollack, etc. There is also good sea-fishing from the pier, where codling, plaice and whiting are taken.

Golf.—Excellent 18-hole course on the hill bordering the city on the south-east, facing the Snowdonian range and overlooking the sea. In 1912 the course was improved by the addition of between 30 and 40 sand bunkers, the provision of several new teeing grounds and the re-laying of some of the greens. Terms, day, 2s. 6d.; after 4 p.m. 1s. 6d.; week 7s. 6d.; month, 20s.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—May be addressed to the Secretary of the Traders' Association. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Library and Museum.—A fine building in Ffordd Gwynedd, close to the Town Hall. Library open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., except on Mondays, when it is closed at noon. Lending Library open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Museum open from 10 a.m. to dusk.

Masonic.—*St. David's Lodge, Royal Leek Lodge, and Star of Gwynedd Chapter.*
Newspaper.—*North Wales Chronicle*, published Friday.

Places of Worship :—

The Cathedral—English services, 8, 11.20 and 4 (on weekdays 8 and 5 p.m.).
 Welsh service, 9.30 and 6.

St. Mary's, Garth Road—English, 11.30 and 6.30. Welsh, 8, 10 and 6.

St. James's, Upper Bangor—English, 8.15, 11 and 6.30.

St. David's, Glanadda—English, 11.30 and 6.45. Welsh, 10 and 5.30.

Numerous Nonconformist Places of Worship, including :—

Congregational (English), Upper Bangor—11 and 6.30.

Wesleyan (English), High Street—10.30 and 6.

Baptist (English), Glanrafon Hill—10.30 and 6.30.

Presbyterian (English), Upper Bangor—10.30 and 6.30.

Calvinistic Tabernacle, Garth Road—10 and 6.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic, High Street—8, 9, 10.30 and 6.30.

There are also several Welsh chapels whose services commence at 10 and 6.

Population.—11,237.

Post Office.—Ffordd Deiniol.

Steamers.—During the tourist season there is a daily service of boats to and from Menai Bridge, Beaumaris, Llandudno and Liverpool. A boat runs daily between Bangor and Carnarvon, and one runs hourly between the pier and Beaumaris.

Tennis.—In Siliwen Grounds, near Garth Point, 1s. per hour per Court.

Theatres.—The *New County Theatre* (seating 1,200) attracts some of the best travelling companies. At other times moving pictures at 7.30 p.m. The *City Picture House* and the *Cosy Corner Picturedrome* (seating 500) have shows at the same hour. *Penrhyn Hall*, near the Clock Tower, a gift to the town, is devoted to concerts and entertainments.

Water Supply.—The water is drawn from the Carnedd Dafydd and Llewelyn twin heights next in elevation to Snowdon.

BANGOR, situated on the southern coast of the Menai Strait, is one of the most ancient cities in Wales. Its authentic history begins with the erection of a monastery about A.D 525, by Deiniol, who became the first bishop of the diocese. The name is derived from *Ban Chor*, "the high or superior choir," the early religious communities having been called circles or choirs, while those which exercised jurisdiction over the less important communities around them were distinguished as high or superior choirs.

Of late years Bangor has become one of the chief holiday resorts of North Wales, and few spots are better fitted, either as a centre for excursions or as the settled abode of the lover of quiet beauty. From it there is easy access to the heart of the Snowdon range, and to the popular spots in Anglesey. It commands delightful marine and mountain views; is a calling-place of the Liverpool and Llandudno steamboats; offers a large choice of hotels and good lodging-houses; possesses facilities for various sports, as detailed at the head of the chapter and has beautiful suburbs.

Standing as it does between the high mountains of Snowdonia and the plains of Anglesey, extending a hand to each

itself combining features of both, Bangor has an appeal which all Nature lovers must admit, but which it is not quite easy to define. No description touches its varied charms so happily, and at so many points, as a passage of Sir Walter Scott's, written of such combinations of plain and hill generally.

"Lady Mary Wortley Montague," he writes, "with that excellent taste which characterizes her writing, has expressed the opinion that the most interesting description of every country, and that which exhibits the varied beauties of natural scenery in greatest perfection is where the mountains sink down upon the champaign, or more level land."

Sir Walter Scott continues: "The rivers find their way out of the mountains by the wildest leaps, and through the most romantic passes. Above all the vegetation of a happier climate and soil is mingled with the magnificent characteristics of mountain scenery. It is in such favoured regions that the traveller finds 'Beauty lying in the lap of Terror.'"

The rocky seaweed-covered banks of the Menai Strait and its tidal waters form a rich hunting-ground for the zoologist; the geologist will find much to interest him in the carboniferous limestone, granite, greenstone and porphyritic rocks and in the slate quarries at Bethesda and Llanberis, both easy of access, while the neighbouring mountains and valleys have special floral treasures for the botanist. The sundew and butterwort are found in great profusion, and a unique feature of the locality is the presence of the Alpine lily, *Lloydia serotina*, respecting which Grant Allen wrote:—

"It is a curious fact that one should find a single species of Arctic flower reappearing at such long distances, in such isolated spots, under closely similar circumstances. If we go to the great snow-clad stretches of land which extend around the Arctic circle in Europe, Asia and America, we shall everywhere find our little lily growing in abundance close up to the line of perpetual snow, though its diverse habitats are there divided by wide expanses of open sea. If, again, we cross the whole of the German plains, we shall see no *Lloydias* in the intervening tract; but when we reach the Alps and the Pyrenees, we shall a second time come upon other isolated colonies of the self-same flower. Once more we may turn eastward, and we shall meet with it, after a long march, among the Carpathians and the Caucasus; or we may turn westward, and then we shall light upon it again on the craggy sides of a few solitary Welsh mountains."

The town is divided into two distinct districts, known

respectively as **Upper** and **Lower Bangor**. The former stands on rising ground on the west side of the valley in which the latter lies. It is the principal residential portion of the city, and is the part in which tourists mostly settle.

Upper Bangor overlooks Beaumaris Bay, the Menai Strait and Anglesey, and no one who leaves the place without visiting this part can have any idea of the beauty of the city and its environs.

Upper Bangor

is reached from the railway station by turning to the left and following the road marked "To the Bridges."

After passing **St. James's Church**, on the left, we have **Glanrafon Hill** on the right. Near the top are the premises of the **Y.M.C.A.**, containing the finest gymnasium in Wales. From the foot of the hill, a turning on the right quickly leads to the Cathedral and High Street, while the thoroughfare straight ahead passes the new University College buildings and leads to the Pier and ferry.

Beyond Glanrafon Hill, **College Road** goes off on the right to the ferry, passing the Girls' County School and the Woman's Hostel.

Continuing* along the Holyhead Road for rather more than half a mile we reach a "look-out," an enclosure called the **Crow's Nest**, commanding a wide view of the Strait and the opposite shore. It is furnished with seats and forms a favourite summer evening resort. Almost adjoining is a stile at the end of a footpath leading to the *George Hotel*, (recently taken over as a hostel by the North Wales Counties Training College) at the edge of the water, by the site of a ferry that was in use prior to the construction of the Suspension Bridge. A few yards farther along the main road a footpath upon the left goes through **Coed Menai**—the Menai Woods—leased by the Corporation and well provided with seats.

Adjacent to the Crow's Nest is the **Home of Rest for Victorian Nurses**, bequeathed by Miss Hughes, whose residence it had been. The **Menai Road** leads past it to **Garth Point**, the site of the Pier and ferry. On the way, standing on high ground on the right, is the **North Wales Counties Training College**, for teachers of elementary schools. A short distance beyond the College a footpath leads down through the **Siliwen**



Bangor.

J. Wickens.]

BANGOR, FROM ANGLESEY.

[Bangor.]



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[London.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BANGOR.



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[London.

BANGOR CATHEDRAL AND THE UNIVERSITY.

Woods to the **Corporation Baths**, where sea-bathing can be enjoyed at all hours of the day, and hot sea-water baths may be had. Adjoining is a shingly beach much frequented by children. In the Siliwen grounds also are tennis and croquet lawns, which can be used on payment of 1s. per hour per court.

Between this popular spot and the Pier is a small lookout known as the **Eagle's Nest**, opposite which, on the Anglesey shore, is **Glyn Garth**, the residence of the Bishop of Bangor.

Lower Bangor

is divided into four districts—**Glanadda**, on the Carnarvon Road, consisting principally of workmen's houses; **The Town**, or Lower Bangor proper, containing the principal business premises; **Hirael**, on the beach, the site of ship-building yards, slate-yards and foundries; and **Garth**, in the vicinity of the Pier, a modern portion containing many comfortable lodging-houses.

We may enter Lower Bangor by turning to the right on leaving the Railway Station, which is at the southern end of a long crooked thoroughfare that runs through the older portion of the city and contains the **High Street**, along which are most of the chief shops, the market buildings and the banks.

The *City Hotel*, on the right side, is worthy of a passing glance on account of its tall stone chimney-stack, said to be a remnant of the building known as the Archdeacon's House, and the *locale* of Scene I, Act III, in the first part of Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, where the fiery Owen Glendower meets in conference the English leaders of the rebellion against the King, and makes his famous declaration, "I can call spirits from the vasty deep." But no more (wines or) spirits will be called from the vasty deeps of the City Hotel, now closed, and transformed into a branch of Barclay's Bank. The chimney stack will doubtless remain.

In this thoroughfare also, about half a mile from the Station, is—

The Cathedral,

one of the plainest of such buildings, being specially wanting in elevation, a fault which its low-lying site accentuates.

It consists of an aisleless choir, transepts, and nave with aisles, and in appearance resembles an ordinary large parish church. It was founded about A.D. 525 by Deiniol, son of the Abbot of Bangor Iscoed (Bangor-under-the-wood) in Flintshire. He became its first bishop and to him the church is dedicated. Of his building, which was, most probably, a very perishable structure, there are, of course, no remains. The Cathedral that was standing in 1071 was destroyed by the Normans. In 1102 its rebuilding was begun. The structure then erected was destroyed about a century later by order of King John, who is said to have repented immediately and to have contributed liberally towards its restoration. The Cathedral was, however, almost a total ruin when, in the closing years of the thirteenth century, Bishop Anian undertook its re-construction. Being liberally aided by Edward I, he produced a building more magnificent than any that had preceded it. In 1402 this fine Cathedral was destroyed by Owen Glendower, when in rebellion against Henry IV. It remained in ruins until its restoration was begun by Bishop Deane in 1496. Further restoration was undertaken in 1532, by Bishop Skeffington, who, according to an inscription over the west door, rebuilt the west tower and the nave. After that, with the exception of much disfigurement due to repairers, the edifice remained practically unaltered until its restoration was begun in 1866, under the care of Sir Gilbert G. Scott.

At that time a central tower was commenced (it has been left unfinished because the ground would not bear the extra weight), the tombstones in the churchyard were laid flat, and the railings facing the High Street were put back and lowered—indeed everything that could be devised was done to lessen the effect of want of elevation.

Internally many improvements were made. In the core of the fifteenth-century walls, where it had been embedded as mere rubble, Sir Gilbert Scott found much of the beautiful work of earlier date. To use his own words, the walls were "perfect mines of ancient detail," so that, with the aid thus afforded, it was possible to reproduce in the transepts and the great arches of the central tower the structure of Edward's time, and some of the ancient stones were used again for the purpose for which they had been originally carved.

"We have been enabled," said Sir Gilbert, "to recover nearly the entire design of the transept, as erected in the days of Edward I, bringing to light again the work destroyed by Glendower, immured by Bishop Deane, and hidden for nearly four centuries; and that, too, without destroying any old features of subsequent date, except the very wretched

windows which had been made up in place of those of the original transepts."

The choir was beautified without disturbing its main lines. The Perpendicular windows remained untransformed, but the roof was raised to a high pitch. It is of open woodwork, richly decorated with gold and colour. A new pavement was designed in accordance with ancient tiles found *in situ*. Other features of interest in this part of the church are the reredos presented by Mrs. Symes, of Gorphwysfa, in memory of her brother, Col. Holt, and the east window, a beautiful modern piece of work by Clayton & Bell. That which was the east window is now at the west end.

In 1908, with money publicly subscribed, a fine rood-screen and four new oak stalls were erected in the chancel to the memory of the late Lord Penrhyn. At the same time the stalls were re-arranged. The memorial inscription is on the panel at the northern end of the screen.

The restoration of the nave was not completed till 1880. Both nave and aisles were repaved, the plaster and white-wash removed from the walls, and the stonework repaired. The roof, which was too substantial to be removed, and too ugly to be allowed to remain visible, was skilfully covered with a richly panelled oak ceiling, but no new works of importance were undertaken. In compliance with a clause of the will of Miss Hughes, late of Bryn Menai (now a Nurses' Home of Rest), the five windows in the north wall of the nave are to be filled with stained glass in memory of the testator and members of her family.

The monuments in the Cathedral are not numerous. Behind the stalls in the choir are two tombs of the Decorated period, that on the right belonging to one of the Tudors, while the other is probably the tomb of the second Bishop Anian (d. 1328). Beneath a simple arch in the south transept lies the body of *Owen Gwynedd*, a valiant Prince of North Wales (d. 1169). His stone coffin, with a cross upon the lid, used to be seen under a pointed arch, but is now built up and concealed from view in the thickness of the wall. On the west wall of the north aisle is the effigy of a lady, apparently dating from the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and discovered in 1897 under the floor of the chapter-house. A mural tablet bears the epitaph of Goronwy Owen, the great Welsh poet of the eighteenth century.

On the south wall at the western end of the north aisle is a pair of tongs that were used for removing dogs from the church.

The vestibule of the muniment-room is entered from the organ chamber, access to which is gained through the eastern

arch of the transept. The **Chapter House** is above the muni-ment-room. In it is the cathedral **Library**, which includes some rare works, among them being the notable Pontifical of Bishop Anian, the so-called "Bangor Use," or service book, dating from 1266.

The gates in High Street at the entrance to the Cathedral grounds were formerly at the main entrance to the grounds of the Bishop's Palace.

Standing in its own grounds on the north side of the Cathedral is the **Deanery**. Also in its own grounds, but outside the precincts of the Cathedral, is the handsome **Canonry**. Between these residences, but standing farther back, is the low building which, until recent years, was the Bishop's Palace. Having been purchased by the Corporation, together with the grounds, it is now the temporary **Town Hall**. It is approached from High Street by the first turning on the left below the Cathedral. To the right are the **Public Library** and **Museum** and the **General Post Office**. The latter has on its other side fine County buildings. These and a portion of the Post Office face a wide, tree-lined thoroughfare called **Ffordd Deiniol**, cut right through the old Palace grounds, in a line with Garth Road, which comes up from the Pier, and Broad Street, of which the upper end is at the railway station.

Looking down upon Ffordd Deiniol, from the summit of the wooded slopes on the northern side of the road, is—

The University College of North Wales,

a noble pile, which, by reason of its lofty site, dominates the city. The foundation stone was laid by King Edward VII on July 9, 1907, and the College buildings were formally opened by King George on July 15, 1911, immediately after the Investiture of the Prince of Wales at Carnarvon. The College "campus," of about 14 acres, consists of two comparatively flat building sites separated from each other by a long and fairly steep slope. The Arts Departments, Administrative Section, Great Hall, Library and Museum are contiguous to one another, and are placed on the upper plateau, the first three forming a regular, closed quadrangle. The remainder of the plateau provides ample room for the departments of Physics and Chemistry, in detached blocks, with space for future extensions. The rest of the Scientific

Departments will be similarly placed in detached blocks on the lower belt, the area of which is sufficient not only for their future extension, but also for the addition of such new departments as it may be found desirable to establish.

About three-fourths of the area of the College grounds was the free gift of the city, at a cost of about £15,000. The College Council subsequently purchased an adjoining area of $3\frac{3}{4}$ acres for £4,000. Judging by the number of students actually attending the Universities of Scotland, Germany and America, it was clear that, in providing permanent accommodation, it would not be safe to estimate for a lower proportion than 14 students per 10,000 inhabitants, which would give 700 students, or about double the number at the time when the new buildings were begun.

The University College of North Wales, like the sister colleges of Aberystwyth and Cardiff, is the fruit of popular interest in education in Wales. Its foundation was the result of the recommendation of a Departmental Committee appointed by the Government in 1880 to inquire into Welsh education. A subscription list of about £30,000 was raised to meet the offer of Government aid, and thirteen towns competed for the seat of the College. Their claims were submitted to arbitrators, who unanimously selected Bangor.

The College was opened in 1884 in a building long known as the Penrhyn Arms Hotel, to which physical, chemical and biological laboratories were added. The original staff consisted of a Principal and eight Professors, and 58 students entered at the beginning of the first session. Year by year the number of students increased, until to-day there are nearly 600. The staff, of course, has also grown, and now consists of about twenty Professors and Lecturers and a large number of assistant lecturers and other teachers. In addition to the ordinary Arts and Science courses, there are technical departments—the Agricultural Department, which not only provides a training in scientific and practical agriculture at the College and on the College Farm, but also conducts evening lectures, field experiments and dairy classes throughout North Wales; the Electrical Engineering Department; and Departments for the professional training of those who wish to teach in elementary schools, secondary schools and kindergartens.

The greater number of the students belong to North Wales, and are drawn in large measure from the working classes. The average cost of living in lodgings and tuition for the session of 33 weeks is from £30 to £40. The men live in

registered lodgings ; women students under 21 reside in a hostel in Upper Bangor. Several scholarships and exhibitions, ranging in value from £10 to £40, are offered for competition annually.

An important addition to the University, a building devoted to the Physical Sciences, is to be erected as a memorial to the War Heroes of North Wales.

Other educational establishments in Bangor are :—*The University College Hall*, for women ; the *North Wales Counties Training College* for teachers of elementary schools ; the *Church of England Training College for Schoolmistresses* ; the *Church of England School for Divinity* ; the *Independent College*, the *Baptist College*, *Friar's Grammar School*, founded in 1557 (the *County School for Boys*), a fine *County School for Girls* and *St. Winifred's Church of England School for Girls*.

Garth Road,

the third section of the great thoroughfare which runs in an almost straight line from the railway station to the **Pier**, contains the electricity works, an imposing block of red brick buildings, and also the **New Tabernacle**, a handsome place of worship built at a cost of £20,000. At the lower end of the road is a small recreation ground called **Garth Garden**. It is neatly laid out, and furnished with seats ; and, as the view is very fine, the Garden is much appreciated as a resting-place.

Extending from Garth Point is—

The Pier,

(Admission, 2d.)

a structure of which the townsfolk are justly proud. By its erection the dangerous and irregular communication with Anglesey, which used to be the greatest drawback at Bangor, has been removed. The Pier runs out two-thirds of the way across the Strait, being 1,550 feet in length, and has a floating pontoon to facilitate the passage of passengers and vehicles to the steamers, that can lay alongside at any state of the tide. At several points there are landing steps for small boats, and from these rod and line fishing may be enjoyed. A steamer runs hourly from the pier to Beaumaris (*fare* 1/-), and there is a half-hourly ferry to a landing-stage rather more than two miles below Beaumaris. The Pier is provided

with seats and shelters, and is much used as a lounge and promenade. At its head are a bandstand and a stage, and entertainments are given twice daily during the summer. The prospect which the Pier commands is delightful. Across the Strait are beautifully wooded slopes and charming residences; westward is the handsome Suspension Bridge, with a number of verdure-covered islets; eastward is part of Great Orme's Head; southward are the Carneddys Dafydd and Llewelyn, with the great Cwm Llafar, and the connecting ridge between the two mountains sharply outlined against the sky. Near at hand is **Port Penrhyn**, from which the slates quarried at Bethesda are shipped, and just beyond is **Penrhyn Castle**, standing amidst oak groves.

On the south side of the High Street is—

Bangor Mountain,

leased from Lord Penrhyn by the Corporation as a **Recreation Ground**. There are several approaches, the principal being close to Horeb Chapel, near the upper end of Dean Street. The highest part commands views of exceeding beauty and great extent. Walks have been laid out, paths made, trees planted, and seats placed in convenient positions.

From this retreat there is a pleasant walk southward to **Felin Esgob** ("The Bishop's Mill"), half a mile distant, on the river Cegin, but the mill from which the spot obtained its name is not now standing. Thence one can go across the fields to Llandegai, or may return to the city by a pleasant path, passed on the left just before reaching the mill. It meets the high-road at a point opposite what was formerly the Penrhyn Arms Hotel.

EXCURSIONS FROM BANGOR.

TO PENRHYN CASTLE.

Admission.—Visitors are admitted on *Tuesdays* from 2 to 5, and, in the absence of the family, on *Thursdays* also, by tickets only, to be had at the Penrhyn Estate Office, or of Messrs. Nixon & Jarvis, or Messrs. Jarvis & Foster, Booksellers, and at the Castle Hotel. The charge is 2s. for one person and 1s. for every additional person. One-half of the proceeds is given to the Carnarvonshire and Anglesey Infirmary; the remainder goes to the attendants showing the Castle.

The Castle, the seat of Lord Penrhyn, is to the east of the city, two miles from the railway station. It is a modern structure in the Norman style, said to occupy the site of a palace of a Welsh prince, who began his reign A.D. 720. It

is constructed of grey Mona marble, and consists of a magnificent range of buildings, crowned with lofty towers. The Keep is of five storeys, and resembles that at Rochester. The curiosities in the interior include a bedstead made of slate, and the hirlas, or drinking-horn, of Sir Piers Gruffydd, Sheriff of Carnarvon in 1566, and the owner of the Penrhyn estate. With vessels fitted out at his own cost, he took part in the attack on the Spanish Armada, and afterwards co-operated with Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh in various expeditions against the Spaniards in the West Indies. These proceedings were the foundation of charges brought against him by the Spanish Government, and his defence cost him his estate.

Visitors should not omit to see the Stables. The fittings are of slate.

The **Park** in which the Castle stands is surrounded by a wall 7 miles in circuit and 13 feet in height. There are three entrance lodges, viz., at *Port Penrhyn* (the nearest to Bangor), at *Tal-y-Bont*, and at *Llandegai*, the last being the principal. Through the Park flows the pretty river Ogwen.

TO LLANDEGAI.

Llandegai, Lord Penrhyn's "model village," built for workmen employed on the estate, lies to the east of the city between two and three miles from the railway station, amid picturesque and grand scenery, comprising, on one side, a vast amphitheatre of mountains, and on the other a fine view of the Menai Strait. The village is just off the main road to Bethesda, and against the chief entrance to Penrhyn Castle. It consists of a Church, schools for boys and girls, and 29 cottages, which mostly stand alone or in pairs. To each is attached a large garden. The rent is from £4 to £6 a year, according to size. The dwellings are of many designs, and very pleasing to the eye. The roads through the village are bounded by dwarf stone walls, surmounted by a trim thorn hedge. There is no shop of any description in the village, and no public-house. Indeed, in the whole of the parish of Llandegai, which is more than 15 miles in length, there is only one licensed house, and that is at Capel Curig.

The **Church** (*always open*) is supposed to have been erected in the reign of Edward III, and to stand on the site of one built by St. Tegai (to whom the present edifice is dedicated)



J. Wickens,]

MENAI SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

[Bangor.



Slaves.]

LANBERIS LAKE AND DOLBADARN CASTLE.

[Liat Hingston.

at the close of the fifth century. It is approached through a fine avenue of yews, said to be at least 700 years old. Among objects of interest in the interior are a mural monument of Archbishop Williams, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal in the reign of James I—"hasty, hot Welsh Williams," as Carlyle calls him; a monument by Westmacott to the memory of the first Lord and Lady Penrhyn; and a curious monument removed from the religious house of Llanfaes at the Dissolution.

TO THE PENRHYN SLATE QUARRIES.

Admission.—Visitors are admitted, under the conduct of a guide, between 10 and 5.30. Fee, about 3d. each.

Routes.—(1) By rail to Bethesda Station, from which conveyances run to the quarries, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Visitors who walk from the station should take the first turn on the right beyond the town, about three-quarters of a mile from the station. (2) By public conveyances from Bangor, morning and afternoon,

The road from Bangor passes Llandegai, and the route thence, as well as Bethesda, are described in the Coaching Tours from Llandudno.

The slate was discovered in the reign of Elizabeth, but was not systematically worked until about 1782, when the Lord Penrhyn of that time undertook the working in place of the practice which had prevailed of allowing the quarrymen to work on their own account. Then and later extensive and costly operations were entered upon to facilitate the production and transportation of the slates. For instance, a tramway was constructed from the quarries to Port Penrhyn at a cost of £170,000, and a breakwater at the latter place cost £15,000. Previous to 1780, the slates were carried on horseback to the mouth of the Ogwen; afterwards, when the mouth of the Cegin was adopted as the point of export, they were taken down to the ships in carts.

The quarries are the largest in the world, and in good times over 3,000 men and boys are employed at them. Seen from a distance they have the appearance of a succession of terraces on the mountain side. The occupation is a dangerous one, and near the quarries is a hospital, maintained at the expense of Lord Penrhyn.

The different sizes of slates are known as "duchesses," "countesses," "ladies," "empresses," "queens," and "princesses." These high-sounding names were bestowed by General Warburton about the year 1765, and were embodied by an old Welsh judge, named Leycester, in the fol-

lowing humorous lines, forming part of an account of a visit to the quarries.

It has truly been said, as we all must deplore,
That Grenville and Pitt have made peers by the score;
But now, 'tis asserted, unless I have blunder'd,
There's a man that makes peeresses here by the hundred.
He regards neither Portland, nor Grenville, nor Pitt,
But creates them at once without patent or writ;
By the stroke of a hammer, without the King's aid,
A lady, a countess, or duchess is made.
Yet high is the station from which they are sent,
And all their great titles are got by descent;
And where'er they are seen, in a palace or shop,
Their rank they preserve, and are still at the top.
Yet no merit they claim from their birth or connection,
But derive their chief worth from their native complexion,
And all the best judges prefer, it is said,
A countess in blue to a duchess in red.
This countess or lady, though crowds may be present,
Submits to be dressed by the hands of a peasant,
And you'll see, when her grace is but once in his clutches,
With how little respect he will handle a duchess.
Close united they seem, and yet all who have tried 'em
Soon discover how easy it is to divide 'em.
No spirit have they—they're as thin as a rat;
The countess wants life, and the duchess is flat;
No passion or warmth to the countess is known,
And her grace is as cold and as hard as a stone;
Yet I fear you will find, if you watch them a little,
That the countess is frail, and the duchess is brittle.
Too high for a trade, yet without any joke,
Though they never are bankrupts, they often are broke;
And though not a soul ever pilfers or cozens,
They are daily shipped off and transported by dozens.

TO LLYN OGWEN, LLYN IDWAL AND TWLL DU.

Llyn Ogwen can be reached by brakes from Bangor, or by rail to Bethesda and thence by brake.

Bethesda is about five miles from Bangor, and Llyn Ogwen five miles farther.

The road from Bangor passes the village of Llandegai, and the route thence through Bethesda and the wild pass of **Nant Ffrancon**, at the head of which is **Llyn Ogwen**, is described, as is also the lake, in the account of the Loop Tour from Llandudno.

The **Falls of the Ogwen**, or the Benglog Falls, are in the stream that flows from the Ogwen, and are immediately below the lake. The river leaps from rock to rock in three successive falls, and thus descends to a depth of about 100 feet. The visitor should clamber down to the stream, and then follow it the length of the cataracts.

Llyn Idwal is separated from Llyn Ogwen by the road and

nearly a mile of waste land. It lies at an elevation of over 1,200 feet, in a hollow ground out by a glacier. On the western side are four moraines, arranged in long symmetrical mounds, one within another. Few scenes of the same dimensions in Wales are more bleak and wild than those around this lake. In some places the rocks are perpendicular, and stand like a defiant wall around the pool. It is one of the many spots in the Principality with which a dark tradition is linked. A young prince whose name was Idwal (whence the name of the tarn) was here drowned by his foster-father, and it was long believed that, in consequence of the fell deed no bird would fly over the lake.

Twll Du, literally the "black hole," but popularly known as the **Devil's Kitchen**, is about half a mile from the southern end of Llyn Idwal. It can be approached by a steep rough climb from either side of the lake. The path on the left is the shorter of the two, while that on the right has the advantage of being drier. Twll Du is a cleft in the rock 450 feet in length. The sides of the chasm are from 200 to 300 feet high, but only two yards apart. The stream which roars between them when swollen by rain forms a majestic cataract. A steep and almost imperceptible path on the left leads from the foot of the "Kitchen" to its head. A little short of the summit of the ridge the path goes to the right, and the head of the chasm can then be reached in about three minutes. From it is one of the finest views in Wales.

TO THE BRIDGES AND THE ANGLESEY COLUMN.

The **Menai Suspension Bridge** is nearly two miles from Bangor Station by a good road. A motor 'bus runs several times a day to Menai Bridge, and there is a railway station close to the Carnarvonshire end. On leaving the station, turn to the right.

The **Britannia Tubular Bridge** is about a mile and a half beyond the Suspension Bridge. Both bridges are described in the Llandudno section.

Tourists desirous of including the two bridges and the column in one excursion are recommended to take train to *Llanfair*, the first station on the Anglesey shore, four miles from Bangor. Full directions are given in the Anglesey section.

TO BEAUMARIS.

By road, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles ; by water, 3 miles. The Corporation steamer plies hourly between Bangor pier and Beaumaris pier (*fare* 1s.).

Beaumaris is fully described in the Anglesey section.

THE ASCENT OF SNOWDON.

This can be made by taking train to Llanberis, or to Snowdon station on the Narrow-Gauge Railway. For a description of Snowdon, and of the railway to the summit, *see* the Carnarvon section.

STEAMBOAT EXCURSIONS.

During the summer there is a daily service of boats to and from Menai Bridge, Beaumaris, Llandudno, and Liverpool. A boat runs daily between Bangor and Carnarvon.

ANGLESEY.

THE Isle of Anglesey, which forms one of the counties of North Wales, is becoming more and more the resort of persons in search of quietude and a restful holiday. Most of its visitors of more than a day reach it by the London and North-Western Railway. Other means of access are the high-road over the Menai Suspension Bridge, the ferries from Bangor and Carnarvon, and the pleasure steamers from Llandudno.

The Holyhead line runs along the southern side of the island. A branch goes from it to **Amlwch**, on the western half of the northern coast, and serves the neighbouring resorts of **Bull Bay**, **Cemaes Bay** and **Eilian Bay**. Another branch, a light line completed in 1909, opens up the eastern half of the north coast, where are **Red Wharf Bay** and **Benllech**. **Beaumaris**, on the coast of the Menai Strait, is easily reached from Bangor.

The extreme length of the island is 21 miles ; its extreme breadth is 19 miles. The Menai Strait, which separates it from the mainland of North Wales, is about three-fourths of a mile wide. North, west, and south of the island is the open sea.

The general aspect of the island is flat, and it is almost bare of wood, in this respect contrasting strongly with its appearance two thousand years ago, when it was covered with groves in which the Druids conducted the worship of their gods. By reason of its trees the bards, in their songs, were wont to call Anglesey the "shady isle."

The county contains five market towns, namely Amlwch, Beaumaris, Holyhead, Llangefni and Llanerchymedd. The population of these is small, and the island, as a whole, is thinly peopled. Outside the towns, the people dwell in sleepy little hamlets formed of old-fashioned cottages, and connected with one another by a network of winding lanes, decked in the floral season with honeysuckle and dog-roses. The greater part of the inhabitants draw their means of subsistence from their grasslands, farm animals being reared

in large numbers. Many of the men in the coast villages engage in fishing. For long the island was noted for its mineral wealth, producing much copper and lead ore rich in silver.

The Name

which the island bears in English speech is said to have been originally *Angles'ey*, that is, the "Island of the Angles," telling of the time when Britain was overrun by the tribes from beyond the German Ocean, after the departure of the Romans. To the Welsh it is *Ynys Môn* (unnis mone), the Isle of Môn. It is also *Sir Fôn* (seer vone), the County of Môn. The Romans made the Welsh name take the form of a word of their language by adding to it the letter *a*, and so to them the island was known as *Môna*, and is so referred to by Tacitus. For a long period the name *Mona* was applied both to Anglesey and the Isle of Man.

From the earliest times Anglesey has been known among the Welsh as *Môn Mam Cymru*—Mona, the mother of Wales. Various reasons for this name have been given, but it is probably due to the island having been the headquarters of Druidism. In the year 61, the Druidical power was all but destroyed by the Romans, who crossed the Strait in flat bottomed boats. The island was again subdued by Agricola in 76, but it was soon deserted by the Romans. Early in the ninth century it was conquered by Egbert. It regained its independence, and then was often torn by rival Welsh chieftains, until it was finally subdued, with the rest of Wales, by Edward I, 1282.

Fishing.

The island affords its visitors varied means for passing pleasant hours. There is both fresh-water and sea-fishing. The former is to be had at Rhosneigr and close by Llangefni also. At Rhosneigr there is free fishing for trout, perch, and roach, in the lake and river. In Llyn Coron there is excellent trout fishing free. Llyn Coron is near Bodorgan Station, the second station from Rosneigr, from which centre it can be worked conveniently. There is also excellent sea-fishing for salmon, bass, conger, etc.

The fishing for salmon and trout in the Cefni River and Frogwy Lake is preserved. For trout fishing the cost of the tickets is—season, 5s. ; week, 2s. 6d. ; a day, 1s. A season

ticket for salmon and trout is 15s. The season ticket includes the rivers Seiont and Gwyrfaï in Carnarvonshire. Fishing in Anglesey is best in the early spring, March and April; after that the streams run low, and weeds make angling difficult.

Golf.

At **Rhosneigr**, the *Anglesey Golf Club* have a good 18-hole course, laid out in 1914 by Mr. Harold Hilton. Gentlemen, 2s. 6d. day; 10s. week; 30s. month: Ladies, 2s.; 8s.; and 25s. respectively. Open all the year round.

There is a 9-hole course at **Holyhead**, 2 miles from the station. The fees are, monthly ticket 21s.; fortnightly 14s.; weekly 9s.; daily 2s. 6d. Visitors staying at the L. & N.W. Hotel half price. (Sunday play.)

Within easy walking distance of **Beaumaris** is a capital 9-hole course. Fees 1s. a half-day; 2s. a day; 6s. week; 10s. month.

At **Bull Bay** is an 18-hole course, with sporting natural hazards. Fees 2s. a day; 10s. a week; 30s. a month. Ladies 2s., 7s., and 20s. respectively; Sundays 3s.

There is also a good links, recently extended to 18 holes, at **Trearddur**.

For tennis, boating, bathing and other forms of recreation there is ample provision. The botanist will find much to interest him, and to the geologist the rocks yield fossils and traces of minerals. Rare and beautiful specimens of marine flora and fauna are brought up in the fishermen's nets, or are found cast upon the shore, especially in Bull Bay. Bird life abounds. It is particularly abundant and varied in Red Wharf Bay. At many a spot along the coast are scenes that artists love to copy, and in all parts of the island, but especially in the north, are relics that delight the antiquary.

Ferries across the Menai Strait.

Carnarvon and Tal-y-voel. Several passages during the day. Fare, 3d.; cycle, 1d.

Port Dinorwic and Moel-y-don. At any time when required. Fare, 1½d.; cycle, 2d.

Bangor (Garth) and Llandegfan. Half hourly. Fare, 1½d.; cycle, 2d.

Bangor Pier and Beaumaris. Fare, 1s.; cycle, 3d.

RHOSNEIGR AND HOLYHEAD.

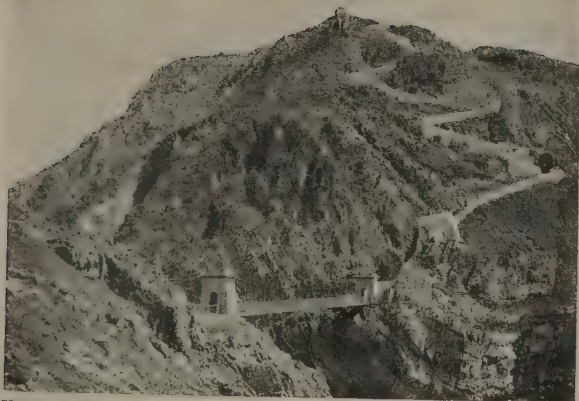
Rhosneigr.

RHOSNEIGR is a small watering-place on the south side of the island, with a station on the Holyhead line. The air is bracing. There are firm sands, affording excellent bathing, and golfing and fishing can be had as already indicated. Good boating may also be enjoyed by visitors, and the place is the centre of pleasant walks and drives. One may go along the sands to **Cymmeran** and return by way of the Common; or, by making use of the ferry at Cymmeran, the excursion may be extended to **Rhoscolyn**, situated at the south-west corner of Holyhead Island, and noted for its magnificent rock scenery. In the opposite direction from Rhosneigr is **Llangwyfan Old Church**, which can be approached on foot only at low water, as at other times its site is an island. Five miles to the south-east of Rhosneigr, by road or rail, is **Llyn Coron** (close to Bordogan station), where excellent trout fishing is free. The Anglesey Golf Club have a fine 18-hole course at Rosneigr.

Holyhead,

so familiar by name through its importance on the L. & N.W. Rly. route between Great Britain and Ireland, is not on the Isle of Anglesey, but is situated off its western coast, on **Holyhead Island**. This island is 8 miles long by $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide, and is separated from its larger neighbour by a sandy strait, crossed by a causeway, which carries the high-road and the railroad and has in its centre an arch for the tide to pass through.

Besides the special attraction which a busy seaport has for visitors from inland places, Holyhead offers boating, sea-fishing, golf and tennis to holiday-makers, also concerts and picture shows in the Town Hall and the Hippodrome.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

[Dundee.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE, SOUTH STACK.



SOUTH STACK LIGHTHOUSE, HOLYHEAD.

Anglesey.



Photos by]

[Wickens and Valentine.

ON THE SANDS, BENLLECH—BULL BAY—RHOSNEIGR.

The principal public building is the **Parish Church**, dedicated to St. Cybi, who lived in the early years of the sixth century. It is in the Perpendicular style and consists of nave with north and south aisles, shallow transepts, a long and narrow choir, a western tower, and a fine south porch. A modern mortuary chapel contains the beautiful altar-tomb of the Hon. W. O. Stanley, who was Lord-Lieutenant of Anglesey. The wall which bounds three sides of the churchyard is considered by some antiquaries to have been built soon after the departure of the Romans. On the fourth side of the burial-ground are rocks which rise from what was the beach of the little harbour of Holyhead only a hundred years ago.

Services in English alternate Sunday mornings. St. Seiriol's has English services the other Sunday mornings, and every Sunday evening.

The **Harbour of Refuge**, constructed by the Government about half a century ago, is one of the most complete works of the kind in the United Kingdom. Its **Breakwater**, the result of twenty-five years' incessant labour, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and consists of a solid masonry wall, rising nearly 40 feet above low-water mark and backed by a strong rubble mound. It is used as a promenade, and affords a fine view of the rugged coast. Looking northwards across the Harbour, one sees on the horizon, about 8 miles away, the island which the English call the **Skerries**, and the Welsh, *Ynys y Moelrhoniaid*, the Island of Seals.

The **Salt Island**, on the east side of the Harbour, is another promenade. In spite of its name it is a promontory, an artificial one. It owes its name to having been the site of works for extracting salt from the sea-water. The manufacture was established in the reign of Queen Anne, and continued until Holyhead began to acquire its present importance, about a century ago.

Holyhead Mountain is a mass of rock, 710 feet high, on the western side of the islet. Its summit unfolds a lovely panorama, including the heights of the Isle of Man, the Cumberland hills, the mountains of County Down, and the Snowdonian Range from end to end. Around the mountain, 60 or 80 feet from the top, is a massive wall traditionally ascribed to Caswallon, a Celtic chieftain of the sixth century. On the seaward side of the mountain is a

deep chasm. At the top of it are the slight remains of a tiny *Chapel*, one of the six or seven sacred edifices that led to the islet being called Holy.

At the foot of the mountain is **Gigorth Bay**. Off its northern horn is the tiny islet of **North Stack**, and on the adjacent mainland is a Trinity House Station from which in foggy weather a gun and explosive are discharged alternately every five minutes. Off the southern horn is the islet called **South Stack**, famous for its Lighthouse, its storm signals, and its flocks of screaming gulls. The **Lighthouse** (*open to inspection*) was erected in 1809. In 1827 a **Chain Suspension Bridge** was thrown over the Sound between the rock and Holyhead Island. The span is 110 feet. The Bridge is attained by descending Holyhead Mountain, by a flight of 380 steps.

Overlooking the South Stack is **Ellin's Tower**, perched upon the edge of the cliff. It was erected by a former lord of Penrhos and, permission being obtained at the Estate Office in the town, may be used for picnics. Preserved in it are stone implements discovered on the site of prehistoric huts, near the foot of the mountain.

It is a pleasant excursion to **Penrhos** beach and woods, at the north-east corner of the islet. The woods are notable as forming the only bit of sylvan scenery in the neighbourhood. The entrance is to the right of the lodge gate of the mansion of *Penrhos*, the residence of Lord Sheffield. If the walk is continued by the embankment as far as **Valley**, on Anglesey, 4 miles, the return can be made by train.

On **Trefignath** farm, less than a mile south-east of the town, is a Bronze Age *souterrain*, of great interest to antiquaries, as is also a prehistoric grave mound, called *Gorsedd Gwlwm*.

THE NORTH COAST.

OF the several resorts on the north coast of Anglesey precedence is claimed by—

Amlwch

by reason of its size and the importance it derives from the possession of the railway station of an extensive district. It is a quaint seaport and market-town, and the terminus of the Anglesey Central Branch Line which leaves the Holyhead line at *Gaerwen*, the second station after crossing the Strait. Once Amlwch was of considerable commercial importance through the great development of the Mona and Parys copper mines, in the Parys Mountain, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south.

The mines were worked by the Romans, and there was a time in their later history when they yielded 80,000 tons of ore annually and commanded the markets of the world. In those days of prosperity (gone now, for the mines are deserted) Amlwch harbour was built, a great, but then warranted expenditure.

Records show that Amlwch is a very healthy place. The air is invigorating, being heavily laden with ozone, and though the town has a northerly aspect the climate is not cold, through the moderating influence of the prevailing winds which blow over the warmed water of the ocean. Roses and violets are frequently gathered in the open air in November, and severe frost is rarely experienced.

Excellent bathing is to be had in the pools.

But Amlwch is a market town near the sea, and not a watering place, nearly a mile separating the town from its promenade.

About a mile north-west of Amlwch, and connected with it by a motor-bus service (fares, 9d. and 1s. return), is the rising resort of—

Bull Bay,

which takes its name from a neighbouring inlet in the rock-bound coast. During summer, when south and west winds prevail, the Bay is usually smooth. Northerly winds lash its surface into great roaring waves.

Shipping makes Bull Bay lively, for all the liners between Liverpool and America pass at a short distance, and smaller vessels often come in for shelter.

The Bay is safe for boating, except in stormy weather; the numerous creeks are safe bathing places, being quite free from dangerous currents. For those who prefer greater seclusion than the rocks afford, there is a large rock-basin, filled with water at every tide and having dressing-rooms on its rim. Good sea-fishing may be enjoyed from the rocks or from boats.

The *Bull Bay Golf Club* has an admirable 18-hole course, about midway between Bull Bay and Amlwch. It was laid out in 1913 by Mr. Fowler, and has sporting natural hazards. Green fees, 1s. 6d. half day; 2s. day (Sundays 3s.); 7s. week.

As we go westward from Bull Bay, the cliffs become higher and more precipitous. At the end of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles we reach **Porthwen Bay**, a small inlet with a heather-covered hill at its western point. Close to it is a natural arch projecting into the sea.

By continuing the walk along the cliffs for another mile we reach—

Cemaes Bay.

A conveyance runs between Amlwch Station and Cemaes three times daily. Fare, 1s. each way.

Cemaes Bay is a watering-place. The day when it could be treated as a scenic episode in a cliff walk is past. The bathing beach to-day is as lively as a corner of Llandudno and with the same gregarious holiday-makers. Something, no doubt, is lost by the change, but there is also a gain for Anglesey, a new watering place, and no mean one.

Visitors familiar with the Cornish coast will be reminded of it here. The cliff walks are exceedingly grand. Eastward between Cemaes Bay and Porthwen, the coast is indented with rocky creeks, of which that known as **Hell's Mouth** is the finest as regards scenery. In the opposite direction, from Cemaes Bay to **Carmel Point**, the north-western extremity of the island, the coast is excessively wild.

In the Bay are two coves with firm sandy beaches ; the shore of a third is composed of small pebbles. Boating and fishing may be enjoyed without danger within the Bay. There is a large choice of boats either for rowing or sailing. Fresh-water fishing and shooting can be had by arrangement with the landowners or tenants.

There are facilities for excursions by land or water to places of interest, including Bull Bay, 4 miles ; Point Lynas, eastward of Amlwch, 7 miles ; Moelfre, 12 miles ; Cemlyn Bay, 4 miles westward ; the **Garn**, 4 miles, the highest point in the island, commanding a view of the whole of Anglesey, the Snowdonian Range, the Isle of Man, and parts of England and Ireland ; Hoylhead, 17 miles ; the Skerries, 7 miles.

Cemaes contains the only ancient **Church** in Wales dedicated to St. Patrick. It was restored a few years ago by the late Lord Stanley of Alderley. An Ichthus stone may be seen at the west end, but the chief treasure of the venerable edifice is an Elizabethan communion cup.

After the church the **Village Hall** is the principal public building. It seats from 250 to 300 persons. In connection with it is a **Free Library**. Close at hand is a **Wishing Well**.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the village is a tract of Scottish Highland scenery, on a small scale. The best view-point is the top of the **Dinas**, a precipitous headland to which the Britons retreated before the invading Romans.

Two miles eastward of Amlwch is—

Eilian Bay,

a well-sheltered inlet where merchant vessels and yachts are often at anchor, and bathing, boating and fishing may be enjoyed. **Lynas Point** is the eastward termination of the coast of Eilian Bay, and is a great resort for picnic parties. Besides the pilot station, it is the site of a modern **Lighthouse**, a Semaphore Signal Station and a Coastguard Station. The light—bright 8 seconds, eclipsed 2 seconds—is visible 16 miles. Near the Point is *Ogof y Saint*, or **Saint's Cave**, which penetrates the land for a long distance. Near it, too, is the sandy gravel beach of a cove called **Porth-y-Cwrwgl**, a secluded spot for bathing, and where boats can be hired for picnic or shooting parties on **Dulas Island**. Another secluded gravel beach suitable for bathing is that of **Porth Ysgo**, a little farther from the Point. Still farther westward, but yet within

Eilian Bay, is a third cove, *Porth yr Ychain*, or **Oxen's Cove**.

About 500 yards southward of *Porth yr Ychain* is **Llaneilian Parish Church**, a notable building. It is in two unequal parts, connected by stone steps. The smaller portion was originally built in the fifth century; the larger in the twelfth. The rood loft, with its screen, is in its original position. It is entered from a spiral staircase that also leads to the roof.

About half a mile to the west of *Porth yr Ychain* is the cursing well called **Ffynnon Eilian**, where, no more than a hundred years ago, were often to be seen corks containing rows of pins standing for the name of a person who had been cursed, and who would, it was supposed, suffer in health while the corks remained in the well.

Southward of the village is **Llaneilian Mountain**, 600 feet high, commanding fine views over land and sea. On its north-eastern side, near the summit, was the court of Caswallon, a Welsh prince of the last half of the fourteenth century, famous for his skill and gallantry in the wars of his country.

The Light Railway,

that has made accessible the eastern half of the northern coast of Anglesey, starts from *Holland Arms Station* on the *Amlwch* branch line.

Close to **Ceint** (keint) station, and to be seen from the train, is a farmhouse which in George Borrow's day was an inn, and it was the scene of that pleasant time described in Chapter xxxvii. of *Wild Wales*. The road from Ceint to Penmynydd (meaning the "top of the hill"), and on to Pentraeth, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, was travelled by Borrow and his experiences there are related in Chapter xxxvi. of the book just named. The view from the high ground of Penmynydd is grand and extensive.

About half a mile from Ceint station the line passes to the left of **Plas Pen Mynydd** (munith), the birthplace of Owen Tudor, who married the Dowager Queen Catherine, widow of Henry V, by whom he became the father of Henry, Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII.

The third station is at **Pentraeth**, described by George Borrow in *Wild Wales*. It still looks much as he saw it, and the house, then the *White Horse Inn*, in which he spent a night, the window of his bedroom overlooking the square, is

still structurally the same, though not now a licensed house.

The next stopping-place but one to Pentraeth is the present terminus of the line. It is named after Benllech and Red Wharf Bay, between which it is placed, a short mile from each.

Benllech.

Benllech also has become a watering-place, having very much the same attractions as Cemaes Bay, except that the dark rocks of the latter are exchanged for bold cliffs of grey limestone. It is situated above a lovely bay, 4 miles in width, with firm sands on which there is safe bathing at all states of the tide, and children can paddle and play in perfect safety. The village consists of quaint rustic cottages and smart modern residences, and forms part of the parish of Llanfair-mathafarneithaf. In another portion, locally known as *Rhosfawr*, is a small cottage called *Dafarn Goch*, notable as the birthplace, in 1722, of the celebrated Welsh bard Goronwy Owen, whose pathetic history George Borrow graphically narrates.

The parish teems with carboniferous fossils. A specimen of coal has been found in the cliffs and so has a coral fossil. Northwards the coastline is chiefly formed of lofty rugged cliffs. But the narrow coast path is distinctly cliffy, and is not for every one, particularly in a high wind. At a distance of about three miles is the village of **Moelfre**, built around a tiny cove and inhabited for the most part by fishermen and seafaring folk. In the autumn of 1859, the *Royal Charter*, a home-coming Australian liner, was dashed to pieces on the rocks, a little distance beyond the village. She carried a living freight of 404 and a great amount of gold, the property of fortunate diggers, who were returning home to enjoy their gains. All but about a score of those on board were lost. Many of their bodies were buried in neighbouring churchyards. Much of the treasure was subsequently recovered.

Charles Dickens spent the Christmas of 1859 at Moelfre. As a result the village and the parish form the subject of a chapter in the *Uncommercial Traveller*.

About half-way between Benllech and Moelfre is **Marian Glas**, a pretty hamlet with good accommodation for visitors. Also easily accessible from Benllech and Red Wharf Bay are the old-world market-town of **Llanerchymedd**; **Bodafon Mountain**, 4 or 5 miles, the resort of picnic parties; **Llangefnl**,

about 6 miles, the principal market-town of Anglesey; at **Lligwy**, the remains of a Romano-British village enclosed within a low wall and covering half an acre, and the ruins of an ancient chapel; and **Arthur's Quoit**, one of the finest specimens of the Anglesey cromlechs, supposed to date from 1200 B.C.

Red Wharf Bay

is a wide inlet girdled by low hills and pleasant sandy beaches. At low tide the expanse of water gives place to a waste of sand and small pools.

The village is situated where the wide sweep of the Bay narrows down to a pretty little cove, which forms a natural landing-place for the cargoes of small coasting vessels. Rising boldly a short distance to the right is a circular eminence known from its form as the **Castle Rock**. Also overlooking the bay, from a height of 450 feet, is the small village of **Llanddona**.

This side of the bay is very attractive. The sands are firm and extensive; the mountain gives shelter from east winds, and the rocks on the shore teem with sea-birds. The **Round Table**—a circular plateau overlooking the sea—is of great interest to antiquaries.

Red Wharf Bay is said to have been the landing-place of the witches who formerly troubled Anglesey. According to the old story, they came ashore in a boat without rudder or oars, and caused a spring, which still remains, to burst forth on the sands. Their curse made the boldest quail, if he believed it would affect him.

" May he wander for ages many,
And at every step a stile,
And at every stile a fall,
And at every fall a broken bone,
Not the largest or the least bone,
But the chief neck-bone every time."

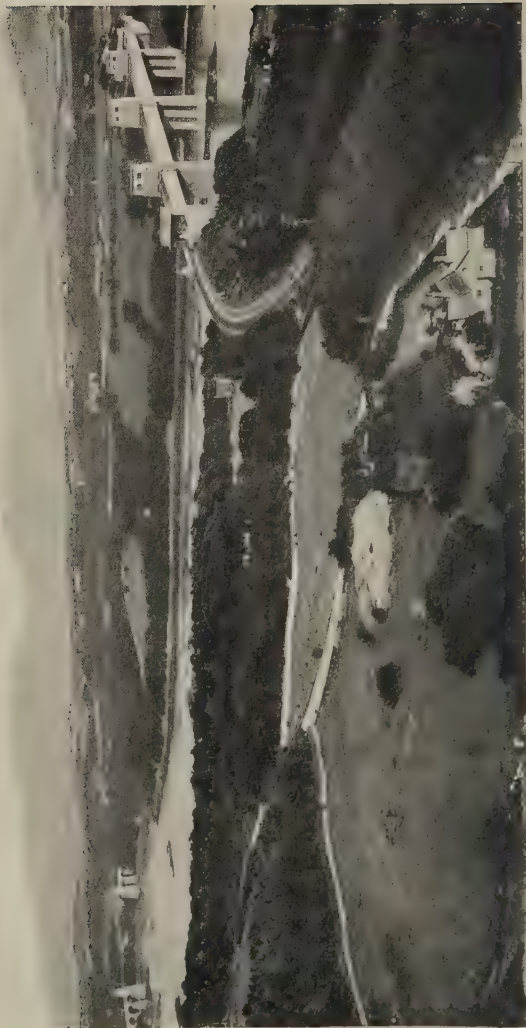
More agreeable visitors in these days are the birds, which find the Bay an exceptionally good feeding ground. The dotterel, redshank, golden and green plover, sanderling and dunlin, curlew, snipe, oyster catcher, cormorant and "gulls innumerable" are among those mentioned in a *Pall Mall Gazette* article entitled *An Anglesey Aviary*. Says the writer, "Now the tide races in, driving waders and gulls closer together and every minute nearer to me. The thin fringe of sand might be some huge poultry-yard, so peopled is it with bird life."



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

BEAUMARIS CASTLE.

[Reigate.]



[*Darlington,*

THE MENAI STRAIT AND BRIDGES, VIEWED FROM ANGLESEY.

Slater,]

ON THE MENAI STRAIT.

THE first station on the Anglesey shore is *Llanfair*, 4 miles from Bangor. The full name of the village is—

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllandsiliogogogoch,

which literally means “Church of St. Mary in a hollow of white hazel, near to a rapid whirlpool and to St. Tysilio’s Church, near to a red cave.” The name in its entirety, however, is never used, but in postal addresses “P.G.” is added to “Llanfair,” to distinguish the place from other Llanfairs. It is also contracted to “Llanfairpwll.”

A short two miles southward of the station is **Plas Newydd**, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey. It is built of marble from the Moelfre quarries. George IV was entertained at Plas Newydd on his way to Ireland in 1821, and Queen Victoria was a visitor for several weeks in the summer of 1832, before her accession.

On the water’s edge, near the Tubular Bridge, stands a colossal **Statue of Nelson**, sculptured by Admiral Lord Clarence Paget, a son of the Marquis commemorated by the **Anglesey Column**. This latter can be reached from Llanfair by walking towards Bangor for about half a mile along the Holyhead road. It was erected in 1816 in memory of the first Marquis of Anglesey, who served with distinction in the Peninsular War, and was second in command at Waterloo. (*See the Trip round Anglesey in the Llandudno section.*) The column stands on a knoll 250 feet above the sea, and is surmounted by a statue of the Marquis. The top, which is 91 feet above the base, is reached by 115 steps, and commands a magnificent view. *3d. is charged for admission.*

A pleasant walk of about a mile along the high-road leads to the **Suspension Bridge**. Less than half a mile short of the Bridge, a gate on the right gives access to a lane that leads through a fir plantation and across a causeway to

Llandysilio Church, on a small rocky peninsula. It is about 15 yards long and half as wide. The nave is probably of very early date. The eastern window is of the fourteenth century. During summer, English service is held in the church on Sundays, at 6 p.m.

Menai Bridge station is on the mainland, but the village of **Menai Bridge** is on the Anglesey side of the Strait. It possesses a pier and landing-stage, approachable at all states of the tide, and offers facilities for boating, and for sea-fishing, which is remarkably good. Ten minutes' walk along the road to Beaumaris is **Cadnant Dingle**, a romantic spot containing an old watermill and a woollen factory. The Beaumaris road is delightfully shaded by trees, except near its northern end, and through openings in the woods the traveller continually obtains glimpses of the Strait and the coast of the mainland. Two miles from Beaumaris is Glyngarth Post Office, in the parish of Llandegfan, and on the shore below, exactly opposite the head of Bangor Pier, is the landing-stage of a half-hourly **Ferry** (1½d.). Nearer Beaumaris is an entrance to the grounds of **Baron Hill**.

BEAUMARIS.

Banks.—*Lloyds*, and *National Provincial*.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Golf.—A capital nine-hole course about a mile and a half from the town. Fees, 1s. a half-day, 2s. a day, 6s. a week, 10s. a month.

Lawn Tennis, etc., in the Castle Pleasure Grounds, 1s. 6d. an hour per court, 4s. 6d. a week, 5s. a season. Croquet, 6d. an hour. Bowls, 1d. each player for a game of 15 points. Concerts and entertainments in the Pier Pavilion. Pastoral plays are performed sometimes in the Castle Courtyard.

Motor Buses run from Bangor Station several times daily all the year round. (Fare, 1s. 6d.) Intermediate fares to Garth Ferry and Menai Bridge. The buses also run between Beaumaris and Llangoed.

There is a steam **ferry** between Beaumaris and Garth Point, Bangor. (Fare, 1s.)

The Liverpool and North Wales steamers call daily during the season.

Population.—2,233.

The town is the capital of Anglesey. It has a promenade **Pier** (*admission* 2d.), and provides facilities for bathing, boating, bowls and golf. Near the Castle are the Corporation **Baths**. Mixed bathing is allowed.

The chief object of interest is **Beaumaris Castle** (*admission*, 2d.), which no visitor should miss seeing. It covers a large extent, but is not of great height. There is an outer wall with ten low Moorish towers, and an advanced work called the Gunners' Walk. On the outside of its walls are rings for mooring the vessels that came up to it by a marine canal.

The main structure is nearly quadrangular in form, with a large round tower at each angle. The banqueting hall, the state rooms, the domestic apartments, and a small chapel reached by a wooden ladder near the site of the old racquet court, may all be distinctly traced.

The Castle was built by Edward I, who then changed the name of the place from Bonover to Beaumaris, a French word descriptive of its pleasant situation on low ground. The only event of importance in the history of the Castle was its surrender to the Parliament in 1646.

The grounds are tastefully laid out and contain tennis courts.

The **Church** (Sunday services, 8, 11 and 6.30; daily service, 10) was erected in the latter part of the thirteenth century, but the chancel dates only from the sixteenth century. It contains some ancient stalls, with finely carved misereres, monuments to members to the Bulkeley family (the best is in the vestry), a stone, on the south side of the communion table, in memory of the father of Sir Philip Sydney (d. 1563), and a tablet in memory of David Hughes, a native of the island, through whose beneficence the town possesses a Grammar School, erected in 1603, and Almshouses. The north door is secured by a stout wooden bar drawn from a cavity in the wall. (One of the two gates of the churchyard is kept unlocked for the admission of visitors.)

Baron Hill,

(**Admission.**—The grounds are open to the public on Sundays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. till sunset or 8 p.m.)

the seat of the Williams-Bulkeley family, is delightfully situated in the vicinity of the town. The house was built in the time of James I, for the reception of Henry, the eldest son of that monarch, when on his way to Ireland, but the death of the prince so much affected Sir A. Bulkeley, the then owner, that he gave up his original and magnificent plan, and used only the part that was then completed for his family seat.

To reach the entrance lodge, follow for about half a mile the road that goes north from the neighbourhood of the Church.

In the grounds, in a recess to the north-east of the mansion, is the sculptured sarcophagus of the *Princess Joan*, consort

of Llewelyn the Great, and daughter of our King John. She was buried at Llanfaes, two miles distant, in a monastery erected by Llewelyn. In the beginning of the nineteenth century her coffin was rescued from use as a watering-trough and her effigy was discovered in a ditch. Beyond the grounds is the **Bulkeley Monument**.

Penmon Priory, at the north-eastern extremity of Anglesey, is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beaumaris by road, but by keeping to the coast when the road turns inland, the distance is reduced to $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. On the route the *Friars*, once the residence of the Bulkeleys, on the site of Llanfaes Friary, is passed some three-quarters of a mile from the town. About half a mile farther, near the shore, is **Tre'r Castell**, a house on the site of an ancient seat of the Tudors.

Penmon Priory was founded in the sixth century. The Church (*key at the clerk's, near the Lighthouse*) is chiefly Norman, except the chancel, which does not date farther back than 1400. South of the Church is the thirteenth-century *Refectory*, above which is the *Dormitory*.

CARNARVON.

Access.—By rail *via* Chester and Bangor.

By steamer from Liverpool, Llandudno, and the piers in the Menai Strait.

Amusements.—Pierrots on the Promenade beneath the western wall. Plays and Moving Pictures in the Guildhall and in the Empire. Boating from the Promenade steps.

Banks.—*Lloyds, London City and Midland, National Provincial and Barclays.*

Bathing.—Open-air sea water baths.

Distances. (By Rail.)

	MILES		MILES.		MILES.
Bangor	8½	Liverpool	84	London	247½
Birmingham . .	143	Llanberis	9	Manchester . . .	108
Chester	68	Llandudno	27	Snowdon Station.	12½

(By Road.)

Beddgelert . . .	13	Capel Curig . . .	18	Pen-y-Gwryd . .	14
Bettws-y-Coed .	23½	Llanberis	7½	Snowdon Ranger .	7½

Early Closing Day—Thursday.

Ferry.—There are several passages each way daily between Carnarvon and Tal-y-Voch, in Anglesey. *See* current time-table. The ferry is near St. Mary's Church. One road to it is opposite the Royal Hotel in the vicinity of the station.

Fishing.—Good sport, chiefly with trout and salmon in the Rivers Seiont (½ mile from the station), Gwyfrai and Llyfni, also in Lakes Quellyn, Gadar, Nantille and of Llanberis (excellent char). An *Anglers' Association* ticket must be obtained, also a licence, for trout, 5s. a year, trout and salmon, 15s. a season; 10s. 6d. a month; 5s. a week; 2s. 6d. a day. Tickets and licence can be obtained on inquiry at the Ship and Castle Hotel.

Boats and tackle may be hired for fishing in the Strait, for salmon (net fishing £5 per annum), cod, conger, flatfish, bass, mackerel, whiting.

Free Library.—Bangor Street.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Motor Services.—To Pwllheli (described in our *Guide to the Southern Section of North Wales*), to Dinorwic Beddgelert, Nantlle, Llanberis, &c.

Newspapers.—*North Wales Observer and Express, Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald.*

Places of Worship:—

Parish Church, "Llanbeblig"; St. Mary's, Church Street; Christ Church, North Road, and St. David's, Twt Hill.

Roman Catholic (St. Helen's), Twt Hill.

Beulah, Moriah, Siloh, and Engedi Calvinistic Methodist, Pendref and Salem Congregational; Ebenezer, Caersalem Baptist; Castle Street English Wesleyan and Castle Square English Presbyterian.

Population.—9,119.

Post Office.—The Castle Square.

Steamboats.—Daily during the summer to and from Liverpool and Llandudno and the piers in the Menai Strait. Full particulars on application to the Secretary, the Liverpool and North Wales S.S. Co., Water Street, Liverpool, or to the Company's Agent, Carnarvon.

CARNARVON (*Caer-ar-Fon*, "the fortress opposite Anglesey") stands just within the western entrance to the Menai Strait, at the mouth of the river Seiont. It is

the ancient "metropolis of the hills"—the chief town in that mountainous stronghold known as *Eryri*. Carnarvon is the modern representative of the British fortress *Caer Seiont*, and of the Roman military station, *Segontium*, and in position, beauty and historic associations there are few towns, if any, in Wales to compare with it.

To judge Carnarvon from the view obtained from its streets is to do it a great wrong. To see the town aright, and so be able to carry away an impression of beauty and charm, one must go to the long narrow quay, facing Anglesey.

Of the thousands of persons who annually visit Carnarvon, the greater number are attracted by the Castle, but the town is an excellent centre for excursions by land or sea, and especially for tours through Snowdonia. Sea and river fishing, bathing, boating, etc., can be enjoyed.

Carnarvon Castle

(Admission, fourpence)

is half a mile from the railway station, from which it is approached by turning to the right and keeping straight on to Castle Square, with its statue of Sir Hugh Owen and its fountain commemorating the opening of the waterworks. Here the ancient fortress will be seen on the right. With the exception of that at Alnwick in Northumberland, it is "the finest castle in Great Britain." Dr. Johnson, who visited it in 1774, observed in his diary: "The castle is an edifice of stupendous magnitude and strength. To survey this place would take much time—I did not think there had been such buildings; it surpassed my ideas."

In 1907 the shell of the structure was repaired, King Edward VII taking a great interest in the work, and in 1911 the walls were further restored and strengthened.

The walls enclose an area of about 3 acres, and are from 7 to 9 feet thick. The erection of the fortress was begun by Edward I in 1283, and completed by his son. It was twice unsuccessfully besieged by Owen Glendower. During the Civil War it was garrisoned for the King, and, after changing hands more than once, was finally captured by the forces of the Parliament in 1646. In 1660 a warrant was issued for its demolition, but the order was never executed. The Castle was the scene on July 13, 1911, of his historic Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

Among the prisoners immured in the castle was William Prynne, one of the most notorious of the Roundheads. For an attack upon Archbishop Laud the Star Chamber fined him £5,000 and sentenced him to lose the *remainder* of his ears, to be branded in the cheeks and to be imprisoned in Carnarvon Castle for life.

The entrance is at the **King's Gate**, beneath a beautiful and lofty archway, over which is a statue of Edward I or Edward II. In front of the gateway are two Spanish guns. On each side of the archway are portcullis grooves. In the towers flanking the gateway are the guardrooms and other apartments, while over the archway are an oratory and a small room used in raising and lowering the drawbridge.

Turning to the right in the courtyard, we pass the site of the kitchen and come to the **Well Tower**, partly rebuilt in 1893-4.

Next to it are the remains of four apartments, and then, guarding the mouth of the Seiont, there is a massive pentagonal tower, called the **Eagle Tower**, through having upon it the figure of an eagle, said by some to have been brought from the ruins of the neighbouring Roman station of Segontium ; but an eagle was one of Edward's crests. This majestic tower rises to the height of 124 feet, has three fine turrets, and its battlements display a mutilated series of heads, wearing armour of the time of Edward II. Access to the summit is gained by 158 stone steps. By taking the first turn to the left in our ascent, we come to the **Queen's Oratory**. By passing through it and proceeding along a corridor, we reach a small dark room, measuring 12 feet by 8 feet, in which Edward II is said to have been born, although archæologists assert that the tower was not built until long afterwards. It contains a stained-glass window, exhibiting the Prince of Wales's feathers.

By keeping to the right from the Eagle Tower, we come to the **Queen's Tower**, now used by local Freemasons. A door close to the curtain-wall gives access to a passage that leads to a corridor in the thickness of the wall. The windows opened into the **Banqueting Hall**, which was 100 feet long, 45 feet broad, and about 50 feet high. An iron rod bearing the figure 6 shows how far it extended the towards the kitchen and the well tower. The corridor leads to the **Chamberlain's Tower**. Coming into the courtyard and re-entering the Chamberlain's Tower by another door, we reach the **Black Tower**, which contains the smallest rooms in the castle, and

was probably the prison. From this tower we go to the entrance on the east side, called **Queen Eleanor's Gate**, because that Queen is said to have entered the Castle by it. Tradition also says it was here that the infant Prince was presented to the people.

From the Queen's Gate we come to a beautiful turret which commanded a hillock that formerly occupied the site of the Castle Square. The name of the neighbouring tower at the angle is unknown. From this tower a guardroom extended to the next tower, which contains large cellars and three good storeys, and was probably the Granary Tower. Within it is a curious arch above a deep well, which was probably a grain store. Guardrooms were situated between the Granary Tower and the King's Gate. The gun in the Castle yard was captured at Sebastopol in 1855.

Since the death of Sir John Pauleston Mr. Lloyd George has been Constable of the Castle.

The Walls

which formerly enclosed the whole town, are now around only a small portion of it. They had originally two principal gates ; others were added as convenience required. The circuit of the walls can conveniently be begun by turning to the right on leaving the Castle, and again to the right at the extremity of the Castle. In this way we are led past the river front of the fortress, and beyond the Eagle Tower reach a promenade running at the foot of the western wall, the towers along which house various institutions—the *Royal Welsh Yacht Club*, the *Carnarvon Sailing Club*, etc.

Pierrots perform on the promenade, and from the water steps here rowing and sailing boats may be hired.

The **Town Church**, or St. Mary's, at the north-western angle, was formerly the garrison chapel. Until about 1850 the Corporation bore the expense of maintaining it. The windows which face outward are, of course, modern, being in the town wall. The building suffered much from the restorer in 1820. The presentation of the east window by the Carnarvonshire militia, when disbanded in 1907, led to the thorough and reverent restoration of the Church in 1910.

From the Church, the wall begins its eastward course. Its northern portion crosses High Street, at the top of which is the **East Gate**, surmounted by the **Guildhall**.

Carnarvon.



Slater,]

CARNARVON CASTLE.

[Darlington.



[Darlington.]

THE PASS OF LLANBERIS.

[Slater.]

Twt Hill,

a rocky eminence overlooking the town, should be ascended for the sake of the grand panorama which it unfolds. The hill is near the station, and is approached from the Bangor road by a lane a few yards on the townward side of the Royal Hotel. The fine stone *Cross* to the right as you ascend commemorates Carnarvon men who gave their lives in the Boer War. By the side of the lane is an immense **Eisteddfod Pavilion**, capable of seating, 8,000 persons. The building, of corrugated iron, is frankly hideous; but English poets of reputation, whose sales, nevertheless, are in the hundreds only, will see something awe-inspiring in the seating provision made for the paying admirers of Welsh bards.

The Roman City of Segontium

was situated south-east of the present Castle Square. A portion of its wall stands at right angles to South Road. By the thoroughfare to the right of the Post Office, the visitor passes along Segontium Terrace and Love Lane, the latter now a prosaic passage between stone walls. Nearly at the end of the latter is a school, where it is necessary to turn to the left. A few steps lead to the main road, and facing one, on the opposite side, is the end of the wall, showing through the modern wall rising above it. Nearly all the old wall is covered with ivy.

Segontium is said to have been the birthplace of Constantine the Great, and of his mother, the Princess Helena. From her brother Publicus or Peblig the Parish Church of Carnarvon derives its name of **Llanbeblig**, *Peblig's Church*. This ancient edifice stands amid quiet fields half a mile from the Castle Square, from which it can be reached by way of Pool Street, at the north-east angle, or by turning to the left at the remnant of the wall described above, then taking the first turn on the right, and turning to the right again on reaching the main thoroughfare. Much of the building is older than the fourteenth century. It has a beautiful oak roof, a holy water stoup, and a fine altar-tomb of the sixteenth century. This commemorates a son of Sir William Griffith, who was with Henry VIII at the siege of Boulogne. The tower is remarkable for its stepped battlements, a feature rarely seen except in Ireland. During the partial restoration of the Church a few years ago there was discovered a grave supposed to be that of Constantine Chlorus, father of Constantine the Great. Here too, it is said, that Emperor was buried, and hence, by order of Edward I, his remains were removed to

the "new church" which the English monarch was building within the walls of the town.

The **Aber Swing Bridge** (*toll, ½d.*), at the mouth of the river, gives access to the open-air baths and two of the most pleasant walks in the neighbourhood of Carnarvon. By turning to the right after crossing the bridge, the path lies along the shore of the Menai Strait. At the end of rather more than a mile there is the disused church of **Llanfaglan**, a very small and ancient edifice, with Roman bricks in its walls.

By turning to the left immediately after crossing the bridge, the visitor reaches the **Seiont Bridge**, which should be crossed. Then he has the choice of continuing along the river bank until the Llanbeblig Road is reached, or of turning into the **Public Park**, which contains an ornamental lake.

Near Carnarvon is the **Cefndu Wireless Station**, the largest transmitting station in the world, from which there is direct communication with New Jersey.

Lovers of the open sea should walk out to **Dinas Dinlle**, on the Carnarvon Bay shore. Take the Pwllheli main road as far as the fifth milestone, and shortly after that the road bearing to the right. By taking train to Llanwnda the walking distance may be reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The sands are of the best, and the views of Snowdonia superb.

The antiquarian interest, too, is considerable. Here Watling Street ended. The stoney track to the immediate right of the building that was the Carnarvon Bay Hotel is it. Dinas Hill is an old Roman encampment. There used to be a nine-hole golf course. Six holes remain, some on the old encampment, and are in daily use.

CARNARVON TO BEDDGELERT AND LLANBERIS.

A motor bus runs on weekdays between Carnarvon and Beddgelert. Half a mile from the town it passes **Llanbeblig Parish Church**. At **Waenfawr**, some 4 miles from Carnarvon, the road crosses the River Gwyfrai and the North Wales Narrow-Gauge Line.

About a mile beyond Waenfawr is the village of **Bettws-Garmon**, with a picturesque three-arched bridge. Another mile brings us abreast of the ruin of **Nant Mill**, with its interesting accessories of waterfall and bridge, of which one of Cox's *chefs d'œuvre* was a representation. Cox's painting, though probably disposed of by him for considerably under

£100, changed owners a few years ago for more than £1,000.

Continuing our journey, we soon come in sight of **Llyn Quellyn**, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length and about half a mile broad. It affords good sport to the angler. A well-known path leads from this side to the top of Snowdon. On the opposite side of the lake is **Mynydd Mawr** (the Great Mountain).

One of the cliffs, **Carn Cwm Bychan**, rises perpendicularly from the water for several hundred feet, to where it presents the appearance of a fortification. The crown of the cliff is called **Castell Cidwm** (the Wolf's Castle). Tradition says it was the stronghold of a robber chief, known as "the Wolf." As we skirt the lake the road ascends, and in clear weather Snowdon is revealed in all its glory on the left front.

A mile beyond the lake is the wayside village of **Rhyd-ddŵ**, consisting almost entirely of quarrymen's cottages and an inn. It is the site of *Snowdon* station, on the Narrow-Gauge Railway, and is within $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the summit of Snowdon, the path to which may be almost wholly seen.

Soon after leaving the village, we attain an elevation of 651 feet above sea-level, and about a mile from the station pass, by the roadside, an isolated mass of rock, which has received the name of **Pitt's Head**. Near it begins the Beddgelert ascent of Snowdon.

Proceeding for another 3 miles, with the river Colwyn as companion, we reach—

Beddgelert.

Access.—Coaches run to Snowdon[†] Station to meet every train. During the season a motor char-à-banc runs daily between Beddgelert and Portmadoc station, and every weekday between Beddgelert and Carnarvon. Motor charrs-à-bancs also run to Beddgelert from Barmouth and Llandudno.

Distances.—Snowdon Station, 4 miles; Bettws-y-Coed, $17\frac{1}{2}$; Portmadoc, 8; Carnarvon, 13.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Beddgelert stands in a beautiful tract of meadows, at the junction of three vales, near the confluence of the Glaslyn and the Colwyn, and amid lofty mountains, woods and murmuring streams. It possesses two features of interest, apart from the attractive surrounding scenery. One is its **Church**, in the Early Pointed style, which has, in days gone by, attached to a Priory of Augustinian canons, a resting-place for pilgrims journeying to and from Ireland. The other feature

is the **Tomb of Gelert**, Llewelyn's faithful dog, from which the place is said to have received its name.

We all know the legend. Gelert, a hound presented to Llewelyn by King John, stayed at home one day while the prince and his train were hunting. On his master's return the dog ran joyfully to meet him, wagging his tail, but covered with blood. The prince, being alarmed, hastened to the nursery, and found overturned the cradle in which the child had lain and the ground stained with blood. Imagining that the greyhound had killed the child, he immediately drew his sword and slew him ; but on turning up the cradle, he found the child alive under it, together with the dead body of a wolf.

It seems cruel to spoil a pretty story, but truth must be told. About fifty years ago a writer in a Welsh magazine showed that the legend was not founded on fact, and the Rev. A. Elvet Lewis, in a work published in 1899, entitled *Bedd Gelert : Its Facts, Fairies, and Folk-lore*, gives wider publicity to its origin. He shows that the story, so far as it has local colour, is a growth of the nineteenth century ; that before 1798 it was unknown in the neighbourhood ; and that it was, in all probability, imported from South Wales by a certain David Prichard, who migrated north and became the first landlord of the Royal Goat Hotel at Beddgelert. Prichard came stocked with good stories from the south, and among them was that of "the man who killed his greyhounds." He it was who fitted this particular folk-tale to the scene, and the dog to the name Gelert ; he who told the story to Spencer, the author of the familiar ballad ; and he who, with the artistic completeness of the born myth-maker, aided by the parish clerk and another, raised the stone now exhibited on the spot known as the grave.

Beddgelert is the centre for many charming walks, of which the chief is that past Gelert's Grave and along the river to Pont Aberglaslyn. The route lies through the beautiful **Pass of Aberglaslyn**, on the road to Tremadoc, for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, the path being bounded on each side by mountains of great height. The *Bridge*, a single-arched, ivy-clad structure, is ascribed to Satanic agency. The surrounding scenery can rightly be described as sub-Alpine in character.

Near Beddgelert, on the west side, is **Moel Hebog** (the Hill of the Hawk), where Owen Glendower hid himself when pursued by the English. The ascent commences close to the

Goat Hotel. The mountain is 2,566 feet in height, and the summit can be reached from Beddgelert in from an hour and a half to two hours.

BEDDGELERT TO LLANBERIS.

Leaving Beddgelert, we pass over the Colwyn, and, proceeding to the right, begin to ascend a lovely valley to Pen-y-Gwryd. In front is the summit of **Moel Siabod**, and on the left is **Aran**, one of the peaks of Snowdon. We pass, at a distance, a wooded eminence called **Dinas Emrys**, to which, legend says, Vortigern retired and Merlin came to his aid. Then, less than two miles from Beddgelert, we reach **Llyn-y-Ddinas**, a small but beautiful lake, from one end of which is a fine view of Moel Hebog. A little farther along the road we have a glimpse of the summit of Snowdon, the ascent of which can be made from here.

After crossing the Glaslyn, we keep up **Nant Gwynant** to the beautiful **Llyn Gwynant**, 4 miles from Beddgelert. Rising out of the water is *Gallt-y-Wenallt*, a rocky shoulder of Snowdon. We skirt the lake, which is about a mile in length, and then, proceeding uphill for nearly another 3 miles, through most attractive scenery, reach **Pen-y-Gwryd**, about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert. The *Pen-y-Gwryd Hotel* is the only house in the locality. The site is 907 feet above sea-level, at the junction of the road by which we have travelled with the Pass of Llanberis and the road to Capel Curig. In the vicinity one of the routes to the summit of Snowdon begins. The hotel is mentioned in Kingsley's *Two Years Ago*. On one occasion the novelist, accompanied by Tom Taylor and the author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, stayed at the house. The three friends amused themselves by writing some hybrid verses in the visitors' book. Unfortunately, the pages they used have been stolen.

From Pen-y-Gwryd the route bends round *Y Foelberfedd*, a "cub" of Glyder-fawr, and then takes a north-westerly direction, which it maintains for about 10 miles. A mile from Pen-y-Gwryd we reach a level spot appropriately named **Gorphwysfa**, "the resting-place," but more frequently called Pen-y-Pass. Here stands a *Hotel*, 1,169 feet above the sea.

From "the resting-place" we begin the descent of the

Pass of Llanberis,

the finest carriage mountain-road in Wales. The precipitous and craggy sides of the noble mountains press closely on each other and shut in the narrow pass. Shattered masses of every form, which have fallen from the heights, lie in strange confusion, and amid them the *Seiont*, rushing and roaring, hastens its descent to the head of Llyn Peris.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Gorphwysfa Hotel, on the right, is an enormous fragment of rock that has fallen from the side of Glyder-fawr. It is popularly called the *Cromlech Stone*. Resting upon other fragments, it leaves a cavity beneath, which an old woman named Hetty was wont to occupy.

Some two miles farther we reach the picturesque village of **Nant Peris**, formerly known as **Old Llanberis**, and soon afterwards are running by the side of **Llyn Peris**, on the opposite shore of which are the Dinorwic slate-quarries. Then we get abreast of the remains of **Dolbadarn Castle**. They consist only of a round tower, which probably does not date back many centuries, but the site is said to have been held by the Prince of North Wales in the sixth century. Beyond the ruin we arrive by a park-like approach at the *Royal Victoria Hotel*, in modern Llanberis. At the foot of the hotel grounds is the lower terminus of the Mountain Railway.

Llanberis.

Amusements.—Moving pictures nightly. Concerts and entertainments in the Calvinist Methodist Schoolroom.

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Parish Church.—English services 11.15 and 5. Communion 8 a.m. On first Sunday of the month, 11.15.

Public Library.—Open 10 a.m.

Distances. (By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bangor	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	Chester	77	Llandudno . . .	36
Carnarvon . . .	9	Conway	32	London	257

(By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bettws-y-Coed		Beddgelert . . .	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pen-y-Gwryd . .	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Station	16	Capel Curig . . .	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Portmadoc	22

By Llanberis is meant the modern village of that name. It contains the railway station and is a good two miles from the old village. It is a common centre of the coach routes from Bettws-y-Coed, Bangor, Carnarvon, and Beddgelert,

and the quarter chosen by the great majority of tourists who make the ascent of Snowdon, the Glyders, the Elidyr, and Moel Eilio. The village is situated on the western side of **Llyn Padarn**, a lake two miles in length. This lake is connected with **Llyn Peris** by the river Seiont. Boating can be enjoyed on both lakes, and lakes and river alike afford sport for the angler. The fishing in the upper lake, Llyn Peris, is the property of the Snowdon Mountain Railway and Hotels Co. It is free to visitors at the Company's Hotels—*Victoria* and *Padarn Villa*. At the northern end of Llyn Padarn is a picturesque stone bridge leading to a Roman camp at Dinas Dinorwic, about a mile off. About 200 yards from the Victoria Hotel, and within its grounds, are the remains of **Dolbadarn Castle**.

Half a mile south-westward from the Castle is the **Fall of Ceunant Mawr**, the height of which exceeds 60 feet, but it is effective only after heavy rain. Proceeding upwards along the track of the Snowdon Railway, in less than half a mile we reach a bridge crossing the stream. A gate immediately to the right after crossing leads to a series of cascades, less lofty than the Falls of Ceunant Mawr, but more picturesque.

THE ASCENT OF SNOWDON.

SNOWDON is the highest and finest mountain in the southern portion of Great Britain. It has five distinct peaks, viz., *Yr Aran*, *Lliwedd*, *Cri-y-Ddysgyl*, *Crib-goch*, and *Y Wyddfa*. The last-named, the central and loftiest, is 3,560 feet above sea-level. As close as possible to the highest ground is the upper terminus of the Mountain Railway, while the limited area of the very summit is the site of a cairn erected by the Ordnance surveyors, and of a hotel owned and managed by the Mountain Railway Company. The apartments include ten bedrooms and two large refreshment rooms, each capable of accommodating some 70 or 80 persons. The food is prepared at one of the Company's hotels at the foot of the mountain. At the summit station of the railway is a telegraph office. There is also telephonic communication, for the use of visitors only, between the Summit Hotel and the Victoria and Padarn Villa Hotels, Llanberis.

Round trip tickets used to be issued, available on both the Snowdon Mountain Railway and the North Wales Narrow Gauge line on the other side. As these may be resumed it is worth pointing out that the railways do not connect, the terminus of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway being not at the summit, but at the foot of Snowdon.

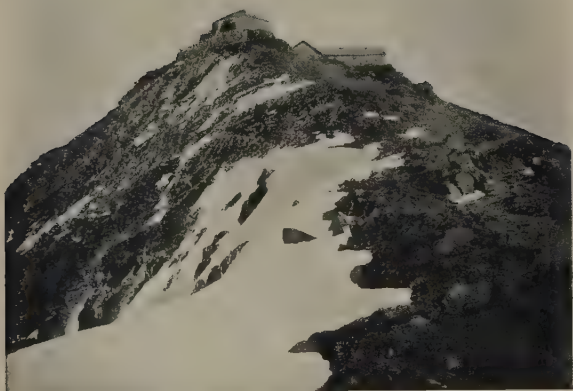
There are five well-beaten tracks to the summit, all free from danger, and in addition there is—

The Mountain Railway.

Fares.—Return 7s. 6d. ; single 4s. The trains run several times daily (weekdays only). The time occupied in ascending or descending is seventy minutes.

The lower terminal station is about five minutes' walk from the London and North-Western Station at Llanberis.

The length of the line is $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The track is laid on the solid all the way, the gauge being 2 feet $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The rails, of the ordinary pattern, are firmly bolted to steel sleepers, which are hollowed underneath so that they may be firmly embedded.



G. P. Abraham,]

[Kestwick.

THE SUMMIT OF SNOWDON.



H. C. Wharton & Co.,]

[Kilburn.

DOLBADARN CASTLE, LLANBERIS.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

THE UPPER LAKE, LLANBERIS, AND SNOWDON.

[Reigate.]

The mechanism for propulsion consists of a double steel rack, firmly bolted to the centre of the line, and in the deeply-cut indentation of the rock the driving pinions of the engines work. There are four of these pinions, which are very massive, and continually in gear; and the whole power of the engine being available for braking purposes, the train can be brought to a dead stand instantly. As an additional precaution, extra lip girders have been provided, under which powerful brackets run, so that it is absolutely impossible for the engine or carriages to mount the rack without pulling up the rails and sleepers. The carriages have separate brakes, and during the ascent and descent the engine is at the lower end of the train.

The route was selected so as to cause as little disfigurement to the mountain as possible, and at the same time to enable passengers to see what is best worth seeing on Snowdon. Soon after leaving the Llanberis terminus, a fine viaduct of fourteen arches affords a full view of the Ceunant Mawr. Then, after passing the first of the three intervening stations, the line ascends along the east side of Cwm Brwynog until the ridge overlooking the pass is reached. From this point the view becomes grander and more extensive at every yard.

Exceptional views, requiring (alas) weather somewhat exceptional. Disappointment would be less common if people would take the very obvious precaution of looking at the summit of Snowdon before starting. To find this, stand upon the doorstep of the Free Library at Llanberis and look between the two chimney stacks of the house immediately beyond the chapel opposite.

1. The Path from Llanberis.

This, although somewhat wet, is the easiest route for pedestrians, and on that account is the most generally chosen. It is, indeed, so comparatively easy and gradual that ponies can be taken all the way, and carts part of the distance. Unfortunately, it is the least interesting. Its length is just under five miles, and may be accomplished in about 2 hours. To get to the path from the station, follow the main road to the Victoria Hotel, and then take a lane on the right. This soon reaches a wood which is entered by a gate. Follow the cart-track through the wood. Just after leaving the wood it turns sharply to the left, and thence is perfectly plain. At the end of a short half-hour's walk from the wood stands a cottage on the left. At a height of 1,525 feet, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Llanberis, the path passes under the railroad. About a mile further is a refreshment hut, generally called the

Halfway House. Thence the track is steeper. At the height of 2,521 feet the path again passes under the railroad, and a fine view is afforded of the Llanberis Pass and Cwm Glas Bach, which lie immediately below. In the vicinity the path meets the Snowdon Ranger route on the right and the Capel Curig route on the left. The elevation of this spot is about 3,260 feet, and a steep climb for about a quarter of an hour completes the ascent.

2. The Snowdon Ranger (Quellyn Lake Station) Route.

The distance by this route is about 4 miles, and will occupy a couple of hours. The path commands fine views, but is very soft after rain. The ascent begins near the Quellyn Lake Station on the North Wales Narrow-Gauge Railway, which joins the London and North-Western line at Dinas Junction, 3 miles south of Carnarvon. Near the lower end of the path is a farmhouse, soon after passing which the path has a zigzag course, and leads through a gate. At the end of half an hour's walk there is another gate, and, the gate becoming indistinct, the left shoulder of Snowdon must be taken as a guide until the track again appears. It finally crosses the railroad and joins the Llanberis path near the junction of that route with the path from Pen-y-Gwryd.

The following facts may be noted by those making the *descent* by this path. A House of Rest, formerly the Snowdon Ranger Hotel, is situated in a clump of trees about the middle of the eastern side of the lake, and is visible from the top of Snowdon. The path leaves the Llanberis route a short half-mile from the summit.

3. From Beddgelert or Snowdon Station.

The distance to the summit from Beddgelert is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles; from Snowdon Station it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The paths unite about three-quarters of a mile from the high-road. The ascent from the station will occupy a good two and a half hours. Snowdon Station is on the narrow-gauge line mentioned above. From Beddgelert follow the Carnarvon road for about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and there, just short of the *Pitt's Head Rock*, pass from the road to the right through a farm.

From Snowdon Station the summit is in full view, and far up on a shoulder of the mountain may be seen a wall through which the path runs. Less than halfway up, at the foot of a steep and rocky portion of the route, is a refreshment room. At the elevation of 3,080 feet the path runs along the ridge of Bwlch-y-Maen, some 7 or 8 feet wide. The uppermost

portion of the route is very steep and rocky, but is perfectly safe.

We would advise those who go to and from Snowdon by train to ascend by the Llanberis path and descend to Snowdon Station.

The descent begins close to the railway station, and the track is unmistakable. In three-quarters of a mile, it swerves to the right, and runs along the ridge of Llechog, near the end of which it passes through a wall and presently goes through the wall again. Then it passes some sheep-pens, and becomes indistinct. Hereabouts it bends to the right and crosses a field to a gate by a sheepfold, beyond which it winds among the rocks until it reaches a green road. Pedestrians bound for Beddgelert cross this road, but those making for Snowdon Station follow the road to the right.

4. Sir Edward Watkin's Path.

This lies beyond the route just described. By it the summit is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the high-road. The path leaves the high-road between Llyn Dinas and Llyn Gwynant, and passes through the grounds of the late Sir Edward Watkin's house. The route is easy until some slate quarries are reached. There the path made by Sir Edward begins, and is too plain to be missed. It should be ascended rather than descended.

5. The Capel Curig Route.

This is the wildest and grandest of the approaches to the summit of Snowdon. It should be attempted only in clear, settled weather. From Capel Curig the distance to the top is 9 miles; from Pen-y-Gwryd 5 miles, and Gorphwysfa Hotel 4 miles. Pen-y-Gwryd and Gorphwysfa (Pen-y-Pass) are on the high-road from Capel Curig to Llanberis. The time occupied in making the ascent from either will be from 2 to 3 hours. A pony can be taken all the way, although the upper part is exceedingly steep. The high-road is left opposite the hotel at Gorphwysfa. The path is open to pedestrians, but closed to vehicles. At the end of about a mile it reaches Llyn Teyrn, a small lake in a hollow. Another half-mile or so brings it to Llyn Llydaw, a sheet of water more than a mile long, which is utilized by the North Wales Power Company for the generation of electricity. Instead of going the length of the lake along its southern side, the pedestrian can cut off a corner, unless there has been much rain, by crossing the lake by a causeway near the eastern end, and then following the path along the northern shore. From Llyn

Llydaw, 1,420 feet above sea-level, there is a steep ascent to Llyn Glaslyn, at an elevation of 1,971 feet. In the vicinity of the latter lake are old copper mines, and there the cart-track ceases. It is succeeded by a very rough and steep zigzag path, which, in clear weather, cannot easily be missed.

To descend by the Capel Curig route, follow the Llanberis path for about a third of a mile. Do not attempt short cuts on the zigzag path, or you may come to grief in a disused mine. The greater part of the route is visible from the summit.

The View from the Summit.

When the conditions are favourable, the prospect is beautiful and extensive. Not the least of the grandeur displayed lies immediately underneath in the appearance presented by the cwms and precipices of Snowdon itself. In exceptionally clear weather the outline of the Cumberland mountains, the Isle of Man, and the Wicklow mountains in Ireland are visible. More frequently almost every conspicuous height in Wales can be distinguished. The course of the Menai Strait can be traced, as can also the coast of South Anglesey as far as Holyhead mountain, some 32 miles distant.

To those unaccustomed to view objects from such a standpoint, nothing, perhaps, is more surprising than the deceptiveness of the idea of distance. On the west side of Snowdon is an oblong pool that looks but a third of a mile away, while in reality the distance is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The church at Llanberis is 4 miles as the crow flies, but appears to be not more than half as far. Llyn Llydaw is apparently so close that one might almost jump into it, but a horizontal line from the summit of Snowdon to a point over the nearest end of the lake would measure nearly a mile.

Taking advantage of the accommodation provided at the top of the mountain by the Mountain Railway Co., many persons remain all night on the summit to enjoy the views at sunrise and sunset.

BETTWS-Y-COED, LLANRWST AND TREFRIW.

BETTWS-Y-COED.

Access.—By L. & N.W.R. *via* Chester, Llandudno Junction and the Vale of Conway.

By G.W.R. *via* Shrewsbury and Festiniog.

Motor-'bus (daily) from Corwen (22 miles). The road from Llangollen (33 miles) and Corwen follows the route taken by George Borrow and described in his *Wild Wales* (Chapters xxiii. and xxvi.).

Bank.—*London Joint City and Midland.*

Distances. (By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Blaenau Festiniog	12½	Dolwyddelen	5½	Llanrwst	4
Conway	16	Llandudno	18	Portmadoc	25½

(By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Beddgelert	18	Dolwyddelen Castle	7	Pandy Mill	3½
Bethesda	14	Fairy Glen	1½	Penmachno	4½
Capel Curig	5½	Llanberis	16	Pen-y-Gwryd	10
Carnarvon	24	Miners' Bridge	1	Pontypant Bridge	4
Conway Falls	3	Nant Ffrancon	10	Swallow Waterfalls	2½

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Entertainments.—Concerts and other entertainments are given frequently in the Schoolroom and on the Recreation Ground.

Fishing.—Excellent fishing for trout and salmon in the water of the Conway Fishing Association. Trout tickets are issued to visitors and bona-fide residents staying or residing within two miles of the Association Water. During the months of March and April the holders of trout tickets have access to all the Association Water.

Salmon tickets are issued to bona-fide visitors residing for less than two months within two miles of the Association Water. They entitle the holder to not more than 28 days' fishing in any one season from the left bank of the Rivers Conway and Lledr, and on the River Llugwy at 7s. 6d. per day; £2 a week; £6 a month. Another class of ticket gives the right to fish all the Association waters on the River Llugwy, and on the left bank of the River Conway, from Waterloo Bridge to the junction of these rivers at 2s. a day; 7s. 6d. a week; 20s. a month. During March and April the ticket-holder may fish all the Association water, on Conway Lledr and Llugwy, terms as above. Fishing on the Elsi Lake (30 acres) which has been well stocked by the Conway Fishing Association with Lock Leven Trout, 5s. a day, 15s. a week.

The licence, extra at all times, is, for trout, day 6d., season 2s.; for salmon day, 1s., week, 3s., month, 10s., season 20s.

Tickets and licences can be obtained from Mr. Robert Parry, Chemist.

Golf.—Course within five minutes walk of Railway Station. Temporarily discontinued.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—These may be addressed to the Secretary of the Ratepayers' Association. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Places of Worship :—

St. Mary's Church—8.30, 11.15 and 7.30.

Congregational and Calvinistic Methodist Chapels (English and Welsh).

Sports.—Lawn tennis (hard courts for winter and summer), croquet, bowls, Badminton and quoits in the Recreation Ground, situated in a picturesque spot alongside the lovely Church Pool.

Water Supply.—An abundant supply of pure water from Elsi Lake. Electric power from the same source.

BETTWS-Y-COED ("the Chapel," or "the Sanctuary in the Wood ") is near the confluence of the rivers Llugwy and Conway. It stretches for about a mile along the Holyhead road, and consists mainly of hotels and lodging-houses. The resident population is only about a thousand. The little town is in the midst of the most charming sylvan scenery, and fully deserves its title "the Paradise of Wales." The site is low, 80 feet above sea-level, but it is healthy. The water supply and drainage are excellent.

The climate is very mild, and the temperature equable. The rainfall is somewhat heavy, the average annual amount for a series of years being nearly 47 inches, but as the soil is light and porous, the water is quickly carried off, so that the air is kept free from fogs. During the period for which the rainfall has been given, the recorded amount of bright sunshine was 1,302 hours, but the amount received was actually greater, as there are times when the rays are cut off from the instrument by an intervening hill.

The village has long been a favourite haunt of anglers and artists. David Cox visited it for many years. In 1847 he painted the signboard of the Royal Oak Hotel. The work, valued at a thousand pounds, is preserved in the entrance hall of the hotel.

The Old Church,

one of the oldest in Wales ; is now used only for weddings and funerals. To reach it, turn to the left over the railway opposite Glan Aber Hotel, a few yards south of the Post Office. It contains the recumbent effigy of Gryffydd ap Dafydd Goch, a grandson of the last Llewelyn's brother David. He lived in the Lledr Valley, in the fourteenth century. For the old edifice, which is dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels, there has been substituted **St. Mary's Church**, a beautiful building erected in 1873.

About half a mile south of the railway station is the—

Waterloo Bridge,

reached by turning to the left on arriving at the village street. *Y Bont Haiarn* ("the Iron Bridge"), the Welsh have always called it. As the inscription on the bridge testifies, it was built in the year in which the battle of Waterloo was fought, and to that circumstance owes its English name. From the bridge the view up and down the valley is extremely picturesque.

By proceeding in the opposite direction along the village street, the visitor quickly comes to—

Pont-y-Pair

("the Bridge of the Cauldron"), an old stone bridge thrown over the Llugwy. It is sometimes attributed to Inigo Jones, the great architect of the first half of the seventeenth century, but tradition says it was designed and partly built by a native mason named Howel, who died about 1470, before the work was finished. The bridge is a favourite subject with artists and photographers, and always makes a pretty picture. Jagged rocks here form the bed of the river, causing a miniature cataract. Just above the bridge is **Fir Island**, and on the left bank (the north side) are flat rocks much used as seats by visitors. Above Fir Island is the **Still Pool**, alongside which is a path that may be followed to the Miners' Bridge and the Swallow Falls.

Bettws-y-Coed is the centre of many pleasant—

SHORT WALKS AND EXCURSIONS.

At the station brakes and carriages await the arrival of most trains.

A motor-'bus runs several times daily between Bettws-y-Coed station and Penmachno.

The 'bus also runs daily to Llanrwst and Trefriw Wells. The 'bus will stop anywhere to pick up and set down, except on steep hills.

TO THE MINERS' BRIDGE AND SWALLOW WATERFALLS

These lie near the right-hand side of the road to Capel Curig.

The Miners' Bridge,

about a mile from Bettws-y-Coed, is a wooden structure, placed like a ladder, the lower end resting on one bank of

the stream, the upper end on the rocks on the opposite side. It was originally erected to enable the miners of Pentre Du, the village on the left, to pass to and from the mines on the opposite hills, where formerly about 500 hands were employed.

Pedestrians may cross the bridge, and then have the choice of two routes back to Pont-y-Pair. Neither route is much longer than the high-road.

(1) Turn sharply to the right, and keep close to the river. The path presently runs across two fields, and then through a wood.

(2) Instead of turning to the right as above, take a rather broad path straight before you, bearing slightly to the right and leading to a ladder stile. Cross this and follow the road straight ahead. This route is the more popular of the two.

The Swallow Falls

are $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Bettws-y-Coed. From the road a small gate opens to a winding path, descending steeply amid luxuriant foliage. The Llugwy is precipitated down a chasm, which, in its widest part, measures 60 feet across. It does not form a single sheet from top to bottom, but is broken into three large falls, and these again are subdivided and broken by jutting crags, which disperse the waters and dash them in all directions.

There is an old tradition that, as a penance for his oppression of the people, the spirit of Sir John Wynne, of Gwydyr, was doomed to remain in the depths of the pool under the fall, there to be purged and purified. Sir John was M.P. for the county of Carnarvon in 1596 and one of the Council of the Marches of Wales.

Pedestrians may approach the falls by a more beautiful route than that available for vehicles. Cross Pont-y-Pair Bridge, immediately turn to the left and go straight on for about a couple of miles. The route lies through a pine wood to a gate, thence across several fields and into the wood again, which is entered by a wicket gate, the river being visible far down on the left. About a quarter of a mile from the gate, and immediately in front of it, is a rocky height on which is a small circular building called the **Summer House**, and commanding a grand view of the Llugwy Valley. The falls are immediately below the rock on which the Summer House stands. The path to them passes close to the face of the

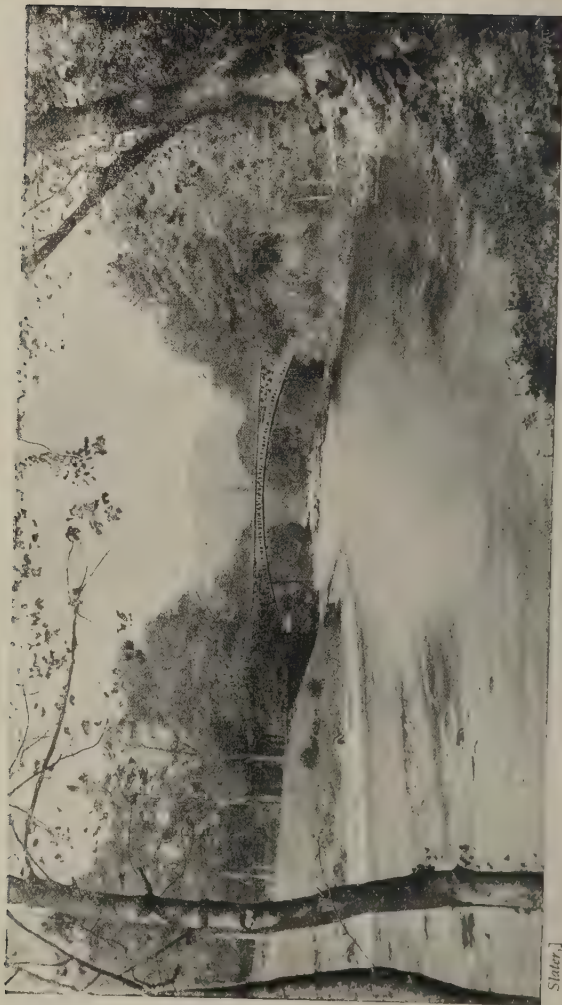


G. Rowlands,]

[Llandudno.

SWALLOW FALLS, BETTWS-Y-COED.

Bettws-y-Coed.



Slater, J

WATERLOO BRIDGE, BETTWS-Y-COED.

[Darlington.]

rock and then through wood and meadow by the riverside to a stone bridge called **Ty Hyll Bridge**. "Ty Hyll" means "Ugly house." The building from which the bridge gets its peculiar name is a cottage whose walls are formed of huge boulders uncemented by mortar. It will be seen standing on the right just as one emerges from the wood into the Holyhead road.

TO THE FAIRY GLEN, CONWAY FALLS, PANDY MILL AND FALLS, AND PENMACHNO.

Brakes to Fairy Glen (1½ miles) is. return.

A motor 'bus leaves Bettws-y-Coed station several times daily, for Penmachno and the intermediate places of interest.

The Fairy Glen

(Admission, twopence.)

can be reached by crossing the Waterloo Bridge and taking the riverside road immediately beyond it on the right, or by keeping to the right at the point where the main road goes to the left for the bridge. The two roads are about the same in length. They re-unite on the east side of **Beaver Bridge**, at the Beaver's Pool, about a mile from the village. From the east end of the bridge a lane leads to the Glen, a truly enchanting spot. The green foliage of thickly-set trees bends over the mountain torrent, which rushes tumultuously over the rocks in its bed.

Regaining the entrance to the Glen, we turn rightward and follow the lane (which at one time was a main road), for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the entrance to—

The Conway Falls.

(Admission, twopence.)

The cataract is a double one, being broken by an immense boulder. Between the two falls is the old salmon ladder.

Once again returning to the grassy lane, we cross, by a stile, to the Holyhead road. There we turn to the right, and almost immediately enter the Penmachno road, on the right. This leads across the Conway River, and, at the end of half a mile, to a lane on the right which crosses the Machno to—

Pandy Mill and Falls.

From the lane, a path through the garden of the mill-house (*fee, 2d.*) takes us to a series of cataracts called the **Falls of the**

Machno. The path to the mill-house commands the best view of an ancient bridge, probably of Roman origin.

Penmachno, a small village, contains the gravestone of Carausius (a relic of ancient British Christianity), and in the Church is a memorial window to Bishop Morgan, the translator of the Bible into Welsh, his birthplace being *Ty Mawr*, in this parish.

Pedestrians may return from Pandy Mill by a path which runs through a charming wood along the west side of the stream to the old **Lledr Bridge**, connected with the Dolwyddelen road. After crossing the Lledr, turn to the right, and you soon arrive at the Beaver Bridge, from which the journey back to Bettws-y-Coed may be continued by either side of the river. The round will measure nearly 8 miles.

TO CAPEL GARMON CROMLECH.

The Cromlech is a very good specimen and the three miles' walk to it opens up most charming views. The road crosses the Waterloo Bridge, goes to the left for about 300 yards and then branches off on the right. Pedestrians can cut off a corner by going a few yards to the right after crossing the Bridge and ascending some steps to a footpath which leads into the road above. At the junction turn to the right. Three-quarters of a mile farther turn to the right for **Capel Garmon**. Two-thirds of a mile beyond the village, pass through a gate to a cart-track that leads past Tyn-y-Coed farm to the **Cromlech**. The latter is in a walled enclosure and cannot be seen until it is nearly reached.

From the Cromlech there is a path to the Corwen and Pentrevoelas Road, by which the return can be made. The circular walk will be about 5 miles.

THE VALLEY OF THE LLEDR.

This valley is extremely picturesque, and is highly interesting both to the geologist and the botanist. The river, a mountain torrent, comes down a rocky but wooded gorge, with bold hills for background. Through the valley run the high-road and the railway. The former is the main road to the lovely **Vale of Festiniog**.

The most beautiful portion of the valley is between Bettws-y-Coed and Pont-y-Pant Station, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther up the valley is the village of—

Dolwyddelen,

inhabited chiefly by quarrymen. A mile from the village, towards Festiniog and near the railway, are the remains of a **Castle** in which Llewelyn the Great is said to have been born. He reigned from 1194 to 1240. The last Prince Llewelyn was his grandson. (*The key of the ruins is kept at a cottage on the Castle Hill.*)

An **Obelisk** near the Castle is a monument to a great Welsh preacher, the Rev. J. Jones, who was born close by.

Dolwyddelen has a curious ancient **Church** as well as a modern church. The former was founded early in the sixteenth century by Meredydd ap Ifan, the ancestor of the Wynnes of Gwydyr and of the Wynns of Wynnstay, who is commemorated by a brass inside the church.

Good trout, sewin and salmon fishing is to be had at Dolwyddelen.

Llyn Elsi,

a small lake two miles to the south-west of Bettws-y-Coed, is a pleasant spot for a picnic. The lake can be reached by taking a footpath near the Waterloo Hotel, by the Jubilee Path towards the Capel Curig end of the village, or by either of the two lanes which meet at the back of St. Mary's Church.

Since 1914 Llyn Elsi has been the source of the water supply of Bettws.

The Stepping-Stones.

Take the path between the Recreation Ground and the beautiful Church Pool.

The **Engineers' Bridge**, across the Church Pool, was built by the Royal Engineers during their war-time stay in Bettws. By crossing it and continuing through the fields the main road between Llanrwst and Bettws is reached.

LLYN-Y-PARC AND TREFRIW OR LLANRWST.

This route is described in the reverse direction in connection with the excursions from Llanrwst. Those who cannot accomplish the whole should try to get at least as far as the lake (2 miles). From Bettws-y-Coed the route lies across Pont-y-Pair, up the lane to the left, and thence by the Jubilee Path to the cairn near the farm called Pen-'Arlt. There it turns sharply to the left, and runs to a wall crossed by a stile, beyond which is another stile near the foot of the lake.

LLANRWST.

Access.—By the L. & N.W.R. *viâ* Chester, Llandudno Junction and the Vale of Conway line.

By motor bus running between Bettws-y-Coed, Trefriw Wells and Conway.

Banks.—*London City and Midland; National Provincial; Barclays.*

Distances.—By Rail, Bettws-y-Coed, 4 miles; Conway, 12; Llandudno, 14½; Bangor, 27. By Road, Capel Curig, (*viâ* Bettws-y-Coed), 10; Trefriw Wells, 2 from station by new road (toll, 1d.), 3½ by old road.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Fishing.—Excellent trout and salmon fishing in the water of the Conway Fishing Association and Crafnant Lake. Tickets and licences can be obtained of Mr. R. J. Jones, The Library, Bridge Street. For particulars *see* Fishing note under Bettws-y-Coed.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Inquiries.—These may be addressed to the Secretary of the Town Improvement Association. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Motor Service.—Daily to Trefriw, Bettws-y-Coed and Penmachno (8 miles), starting from Ancaster Square. (*See* under Bettws-y-Coed.),

Places of Worship :—

St. Mary's Church—11 and 6.

Welsh Wesleyan, English service 11 a.m.

Post Office.—Station Road.

Reading Room and Library.—Ancaster Square.

Recreation.—Tennis, cricket, and other games are played in the Recreation Ground in Gwydyr Park. Concerts and other entertainments are given in the Church House.

Water Supply.—From Crafnant Lake.

L LANRWST is a market-town in a rich agricultural district. It is a capital centre for anglers and for visitors who delight in grand scenery. It is situated near the centre of the Conway Valley, amidst lofty hills, rich meadows and lovely woods. The air is clear, dry and bracing, and the mildness of winters here is attested by the tender plants that grow unsheltered.

Visitors who arrive by train have one of the minor objects of interest on their left, on leaving the railway station. It is the remnant of **Plas Isaf**, the residence of William Salisbury, the first translator of the New Testament into Welsh.

About half a mile from the station is **Ancaster Square**, used as a market-place. In the centre is the **Town Hall**. On the first floor is a *Library and Reading Room*. From a corner of the Square, by the Eagles Hotel, a short thoroughfare leads to the—

Parish Church,

(Open, daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

erected in the fifteenth century and dedicated to St. Crwst or Rhystyd. It gains much in appearance from neighbouring yew-trees and from the proximity of the river. The Church has a beautifully carved oak rood-loft and screen, said to have been brought from Maenan Abbey, which formerly stood some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north of the town.

There is a tradition that the site was given by a Welsh chieftain, one Rhun ap Nefydd Hardd, in expiation of the murder of a young prince entrusted to his care.

Adjoining the Church is the—

Gwydyr Chapel,

(Key at the churchyard entrance.)

a mausoleum erected by Sir Richard Wynne, in 1634, from the designs of Inigo Jones, said to have been a native of Llanrwst. The roof is of finely carved oak from Maenan Abbey. Some of the Wynnes are commemorated by marble monuments, and others by portrait brasses. Of the latter the most admirable is that of Dame Sarah Wynne, daughter of the old chevalier, Sir Thomas Myddelton. Several interesting objects within the building have been brought to it for preservation. Chief of these, perhaps, is the stone coffin of Llewelyn-ap-Iowerth—Llewelyn the Great—Prince of Wales from 1194 to 1240 and a son-in-law of King John. He was buried in an abbey which he founded at Conway. On the dissolution of that monastery in the reign of Edward I, his coffin was removed to Maenan Abbey, from which it was taken to its present resting-place. There is a stone effigy of a natural son of David, Prince of Wales. He was the owner of a fearfully long name wisely shortened to Goch, and it was from his descendants that Gwydyr was brought by the Wynnes. On the wall are the spurs and the spear of the Rob Roy of Wales—Dafydd-ab-Shencyn—and there are many other objects of more or less interest, but as the custodian hands a descriptive catalogue to each visitor, it is not necessary to give further details.

At the entrance to the churchyard are almshouses, known as **Jesus Hospital**. They were founded by Sir John Wynne in 1610.

Memorial Hall. As a memorial to the men of Llanrwst who fell in the Great War, the old Metropolitan Bank building is converted into an Institute. It will house also the Public Library, at present in Ancaster Square.

Returning to the Square and thence passing along Bridge Street, we come to—

Llanrwst Bridge,

a curious structure which bears date 1636 and is said to have been designed partly, if not entirely, by Inigo Jones. It rises to a sharp point in the centre. Many a visitor gives the parapet there a hard bump to make the bridge shake. Some claim remarkable success; others aver that if such a blow ever did set the bridge shaking, it does so no longer.

Running from the bridge is a straight, shady road, which, at the end of half a mile, brings us to the highway between Conway and Bettws-y-Coed. Along this, some 200 yards to the left, is the entrance to—

Gwydyr Castle.

Open daily (Sundays {excepted}) from 12 to 4, except when the family is in residence, and then only on Tuesdays and Fridays. Fee optional.

The road to Bettws-y-Coed passes the entrance to the Castle, standing at the foot of a lofty rock in the midst of magnificent woods. It was long the seat of the Wynne family but now belongs to the Marquess of Lincolnshire. The greater part of the mansion dates from the early years of the nineteenth century. The remainder belongs to the sixteenth century. The exterior is little noteworthy, but the interior is most interesting. It is quite a museum of antiquarian and family relics.

Among its treasures are designs in Spanish leather, tapestries, and carved oak of the time of Elizabeth and James, the Justice Hall, in particular, being made beautiful by the carved work of olden days. Other notable objects are the Coronation Chair of George II, a chair of Peter the Great, a fine woolwork screen said to be the work of Mary Queen of Scots, a bed used by Charles I, pillars wrought by workmen on the estate, and family portraits; but pages could be filled with a recital of the contents of the various apartments through which the housekeeper conducts visitors.

The grounds comprise **Dutch Gardens**, said to be the finest of their kind in Britain.

Opposite the Castle entrance a steep path leads through the woods to *Gwydyr Ucha*, where the Gwydyr family once had a summer residence. It is now the site of a remarkable little **Episcopal Chapel**. (*Key at the neighbouring house.*) The building is used for a Sunday afternoon service, except during the winter. It is approached by a flight of steps. Over the door is the inscription, "1673 S. R. W. B." The exterior is plain. A special feature of the interior is the decorated ceiling. The seats are carved oak chairs of ancient date.

From the west end of the Chapel a path leads to a road. By turning to the right on this and proceeding a short distance, a lovely view of the Vale of Llanrwst is obtained. At the end of a quarter of a mile the road joins the Llyn-y-Parc route between Llanrwst and Bettws-y-Coed. The junction is opposite the Forester's Cottage.

Llanrwst to Bettws-y-Coed *viâ* Llyn-y-Parc.

(About 6 miles.) This is an exceedingly beautiful walk and for a considerable distance lies through a wood, the loss of which farther on is amply recompensed by wonderful prospects of distant Snowdonia. Half a mile beyond the old bridge turn to the right along the Trefriw Road, and then very soon turn to the left up a hill road to Capel Curig. In that, disregard first the lane on the right by the Forester's Cottage, then the Capel Curig route, on the same side, and farther still a track also on the right, leading to lead mines; but go straight ahead and over a stile, beyond which the route lies alongside, but much above, **Llyn-y-Pare**, three-quarters of a mile long and nearly, if not quite, hidden by trees.

Towards the southern end of the lake there are several tracks. The best to follow is the right-hand branch, which leads to two stiles at the foot of the lake. Cross the right-hand stile, and beyond the next wall is a carriage road which leads to Pen-r-Allt farm, a point on the route. But before making for the farm, keep a little to the left of and above the road, for the sake of the beautiful view that can so be obtained. After having passed through the farm, make for a slight eminence topped by a cairn for another view, and thence proceed by the Jubilee path to a lane which leads to the Bettws-y-Coed bridge called Pont-y-Pair.

Llanrwst to Trefriw.

1. **The Shortest Route.** A mile from the station, by the new road. (Toll, 1d.)

2. **By the High Road.** ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.) This passes over the old bridge, and half a mile beyond turns to the right and continues straight into Trefriw.

About 200 yards to the left of this turning is the entrance to Gwydyr Castle.

3. **Past Llanrhychwyn Church.** (About 5 miles.) Proceed as above, but very soon after entering upon the Trefriw road turn to the left up a hill road to Capel Curig. At the end of a few hundred yards take the lane on the right by the Forester's Cottage. It at once crosses a stream just above a small fall, called the *Grey Mare's Tail*. About a quarter of a mile farther stands a cottage, where you turn to the left through a wood. The next turning is again to the left, and is into a footpath to which a stile gives access. This path soon opens up a view of the yew-trees surrounding the church, and leads past the cottage at which the key of the church is kept.

Llewelyn's Old Church, as it is called, is one of the oldest churches in the Principality, and it is a unique specimen of primitive ecclesiastical architecture. It is about 40 feet long internally, and consists of two aisles, of which the northern is the older, and a bell turret. Proof of its antiquity is given by the arrangement of the roof timbers, by the extreme thickness of the walls and by the entrance door, which is hinged on wooden pivots. The font is said to belong to the eighth century. On the lych-gate is the puzzling inscription: IT. ID. OT. 1462. WO. The church owes its popular name to the tradition that it was used by Llewelyn the Great, who had a residence in Trefriw, until, at the request of his wife, who objected to the toilsome journey, he erected one in the village. The Trefriw building, if it ever existed, has disappeared.

On resuming the journey to Trefriw, pass into the lane at the west end of the church, and follow that to the right for about a quarter of a mile, and then take a track on the left. This goes to the left of a hill called *Clunllom*, the summit of which (slightly off the track) has an elevation of 938 feet, and commands a grand view. Thence a path leads first round the southern extremity of a wood and then through the wood into a road which soon enters Trefriw.

4. **Via the Old Church and the Lakes.** (About $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles.) Proceed to the church as above. The route thence is described in the reverse direction under Trefriw.



Alfred T. Hughes,

[Llanrwst.]

LLANRWST BRIDGE.



Alfred T. Hughes,

[Llanrwst.]

RIVER STEAMERS AT TREFRIW.



Slater,]

TREEFRW.

[Darlington.

TREFRIW.

Access.—(1) By L. & N.W.R. to Llanrwst and Trefriw Station.

(2) By excursion coach from Llandudno.

(3) By river steamer from Deganwy and Conway.

(4) By motor bus running between Bettws-y-Coed and Trefriw Wells during the season.

Amusements.—Fishing and boating; shooting (on application to tenant farmers and landowners); mountain-climbing; tennis, croquet and bowls, on the Recreation Ground. Tennis and croquet tournaments are held in August.

Early Closing Day.—Thursday.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Places of Worship:—

Parish Church—English service, 11 a.m.

Chapels of various denominations.

TREFRIW (pronounced *Trev-roo*) is a large village, pleasantly situated under the hills on the western side of the Conway River. Through it runs the high-road between Conway and Bettws-y-Coed, 11 miles from the former, $4\frac{3}{4}$ from the latter. It is in the midst of romantic scenery. The district is one of the most densely wooded in Britain. The village is lighted by electricity and is supplied with water from Lake Crafnant.

Chalybeate Wells.

These are about a mile from the village, along the level Conway Road. They yield the richest sulphur-iron waters in the world.

The springs take their rise in a cave cut 30 or 40 feet into the solid rock at the foot of a mountain known as **Allt Cae Coch**, and the waters are collected in rock-hewn basins supposed to be of Roman origin. It is on record that the springs were used by invalids in the middle of the eighteenth century. Then mining operations on the hill above them led to the entrance to the cave being completely closed by débris. The entrance was reopened in 1833, search having

then been made for it under the guidance of an aged inhabitant, in whose memory lingered stories of cures effected by the water which, in his boyhood, he had seen gushing forth from the cavern. In 1863 the then owner, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, erected the first bathhouse, now used as a reservoir. Ten years later the wells were leased to a company, who erected the present picturesque **Pump House and Baths** on level ground close to the river and on the main road. Patients are accommodated with hot and cold baths of various descriptions, and the waters are dispensed under medical supervision (2d. per glass). The waters are also supplied in convenient small phials for home treatment. Visitors are allowed to wander freely about the Spa grounds and may see the ancient cave of the wells, wherein people used to bathe and drink the waters before the present Pump Room was erected.

The waters are useful in all cases where iron is required, as they contain sulphur-iron in its one and only really assimilable form, which is unattainable by artificial process. Many remarkable cures are attributed to their use. The complaints for which they are particularly beneficial are melancholia, hypochondriasis, low spirits, debility, dyspepsia, rheumatism, anæmia, skin diseases, and female complaints. The Pump Room and Baths are open all the year round.

Trefriw is an excellent centre for motoring, driving, cycling and walking.

In the village itself are the **Fairy Falls**, among the finest in Wales. They are utilized for generating the electricity with which the village is illuminated and by the *Vale of Conway Flannel Mills*, which are open to visitors. The stream containing the falls comes from Llyn Crafnant, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. The walk up the valley is very enjoyable.

Llyn Crafnant

lies to the south-west of the village, in a most beautiful spot in the midst of mountains. It is about a mile long, nearly half a mile wide, and 600 feet above sea-level. There are pleasure boats upon it, and refreshments can be obtained at the boat-house.

From Llyn Crafnant the pedestrian may reach—

Llyn Geirionydd,

in about twenty minutes, by returning for a short distance along the path to the former and then taking a path on the right, which first leads to the left of a slate quarry, then across another track, and finally over the slopes. The lake is inferior in beauty to Llyn Crafnant. It is said to have been the ornamental water in front of the reputed residence of Taliesin, the first and greatest of Welsh poets. He lived in the sixth century, and, if tradition may be believed, was, when a babe, accidentally discovered in a coracle on the mud bank of the Dyfi estuary. At the foot of the lake is a monument of the bard.

Misled by the cross on the monument, the ordnance surveyors marked the spot on their map as Bedd Taliesin—Taliesin's Grave—but tradition places the grave in a tumulus above the estuary of the Dovey, a good 40 miles away.

To reach **Llewelyn's Old Church** from Llyn Geirionydd, take the road which would run to the left of a spectator standing by Taliesin's monument and facing the water. After a short distance, the route bears to the left again, and for a little way is parallel to the stream flowing towards Trefriw. At the end of 20 minutes, the yew-trees, which almost conceal the Church, should be in view. A description of the ancient building is given in connection with Llanrwst.

From the Church pass through the lych-gate and along a path therefrom into a lane which goes to Trefriw. By this last route the distance from church to village is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

To Llanrwst, *viâ* the Lakes and the Old Church.

(About $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles.) From the Church go to the left for a few yards along the lane just mentioned, and then take a footpath which strikes off on the right, and is connected with a second lane, in which turn to the right and proceed until a third lane is reached. In that turn to the right, and in a short time a little waterfall called the *Grey Mare's Tail* is reached. Immediately beyond, by the Forester's Cottage, is a steep road leading to the junction of the roads connecting Conway, Llanrwst, and Bettws-y-Coed.

Porthlwyd Falls are three miles north of Trefriw. The path to it from the high-road has been described in connection with excursions from Tal-y-Cafn (*see* the Llandudno section). Important aluminium works are situated near the foot of Porthlwyd and Dolgarrog Falls.

FOR CYCLISTS AND MOTORISTS.

(See Sketch Map of Main Roads in North Wales.)

THE shortest route from **London to Chester** is *viâ* Malpas, 181½ miles.

Chester to Carnarvon.

Viâ Rhuddlan.

There is a great variety of fine scenery along this route. Beyond Abergele it is particularly charming. The portion between the *Rock Inn*, just beyond Holywell, and Rhuddlan is in a sparsely-populated district, and, as it contains steep descents, it should not be ridden for the first time after night-fall. Chester is left by following the tramway along Bridge Street, Grosvenor Street, and Grosvenor Road, over Grosvenor Bridge to Saltney, 1¾ miles from Chester Cross. Thence level but uneven through Bretton (3½) to Broughton Church (4½) where bear **R**. Easy running to Hawarden Park Gates (5¼). Enter, and follow main drive (more pleasant than high-road) to Hawarden Village (6¾). Undulating to Ewloe-green (7¾), where leave inn on **L**. Undulating, with rough surface, to Northop (11½). Good surface, but mostly on the rise for 5½ miles. Then long descent, which becomes steep and ends in Halkyn Street, Holywell (17½). Pass into High Street, Whitford Street, and St. Asaph Road, with steep ascent. Undulating, but mostly rising, past Rock Inn (20¾), where turn **R** to Newmarket (25¼). Undulating, but falling for 1½ miles. Then steep, winding descent with rough surface. Short steep ascent, and then level to Dyserth (27¼). Short steep descent, then gradual fall to Rhuddlan (29¾). Rather steep fall to the river. Beyond railway bridge turn **R**. Fair surface and mostly level to Abergele (34¾).

From Abergele, follow telegraph wires. Mostly short, steep slopes with poor surface to Llandulas (37¼). Undulating ascent with some steep slopes but good surface to summit of Penmaen Hill (39). Steep descent to Old Colwyn (39¾). Short rise, then long fall to Colwyn Bay (41).

From Colwyn Bay, undulations, mostly easy with very fair surface to level crossing at Llandudno Junction (45¾).

beyond which keep **L**. Pass over Suspension Bridge (toll, 2d.) into Conway ($46\frac{1}{2}$).

Gradual ascent through Conway. Then short fall, followed by gentle undulations, with good surface, ending in a rise into Penmaenmawr ($50\frac{3}{4}$). Very long curved ascent with steep portions, but good surface; then descent, at first very steep, to Llanfairfechan ($53\frac{1}{2}$). Level, then gently ascending, with poor surface, to Aber ($55\frac{3}{4}$). Easy running to Tal-y-Bont ($58\frac{3}{4}$). Ascent to Llandegai (59). Long fall, gradual at first, then steep, followed by slight rise into Bangor ($60\frac{3}{4}$).

Ascent with good surface, through Bangor (pass under railway at the station) to Glan Adda ($61\frac{1}{2}$). Nearly level to Port Dinorwic ($65\frac{1}{2}$). Undulations, mostly easy, and excellent surface to Carnarvon ($69\frac{3}{4}$).

Chester to Rhyl.

Proceed to Newmarket ($25\frac{1}{4}$ miles), as above. Beyond Newmarket, take second turn on **R**. Mostly easy running for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Newmarket. Then a steep rise and fall, and a second rise, followed by very steep descent with uneven surface to cross-roads ($27\frac{1}{2}$). Keep straight on for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Then sharp turn to **R**. Thence the road is first on the fall, then undulating, and almost level near Rhyl ($31\frac{1}{4}$). From Newmarket to Rhyl the surface is fair on the whole.

Rhyl to Llanrwst and Bettws-y-Coed.

Rhyl to Abergele (5 miles). Thence an ascent, mostly easy, and with fairly good surface, for $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, followed by gentle descent to Llanfair-Talhaiarn Bridge, $9\frac{3}{4}$ from Rhyl. There turn **R**, leaving village on **L**. Thence gently undulating for a mile, followed by a fairly easy ascent for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and then undulating again—all with fairly good surface—to Llangerniew ($14\frac{3}{4}$). Good surface, but mostly uphill, for 4 miles, and then rather steep descents with sharp bends, requiring very great care, to Llanrwst ($21\frac{3}{4}$). Gentle undulations, with excellent surface, to Waterloo Bridge (26), beyond which turn **R**. Good, and nearly level, into Bettws-y-Coed ($26\frac{1}{2}$).

Note.—There is another road from Llanrwst. It runs along the left bank of the river. It is only $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles, but is not so good for cyclists as that given above.

Llandudno to Bettws-y-Coed.

Leave Llandudno by Conway Road, which proceeds from Vaughan Street, the thoroughfare running down from the Railway Station to the Esplanade. Level for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and

then rises to Llanrhos Church (2). Undulations, requiring care in the descent, as the road is narrow and winding, and full of traffic in the summer. A steep winding descent through Tywyn (3), and then level to railway crossing ($3\frac{1}{2}$), where turn to **L**. At the end of a mile bear **R** and cross railway. At cross-roads, just beyond, keep to **R**. A long ascent, and then long, sharp fall, with fair surface, to Glan Conway ($5\frac{1}{2}$). Mostly uphill, with fair surface, for a couple of miles, and then a descent, steep at first, to Tal-y-Cafn (9). Good surface, either level or gently undulating, to Llanrwst ($15\frac{1}{4}$). Thence, as above, to Bettws-y-Coed (20).

Bangor to Bettws-y-Coed.

At the north-eastern end of Bangor, bear to **R**. Undulating, with fair surface, to Llandegai ($1\frac{3}{4}$). Turn **R**. Long ascent with indifferent surface, and then a fall into Bethesda (5). Gentle undulations, followed by long winding ascent, rather steep at top, poor surface, through Pass of Nant Ffrancon ($9\frac{1}{4}$). Fairly level to east end of Llyn Ogwen ($10\frac{1}{2}$). Gently rising and then undulating to summit level ($11\frac{1}{4}$). Descent, rather steep at lower end, to Capel Curig ($14\frac{1}{2}$). Slight descent to Cyfyng Hill ($15\frac{3}{4}$). Steep descent with two sharp bends, and then fairly level to Swallow Falls ($17\frac{3}{4}$). Mostly descending, steeply at first, to Bettws-y-Coed ($19\frac{3}{4}$).

Bangor to Holyhead.

From Railway Station ascend past St. James's Church, Upper Bangor ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile). Near summit turn **L**. Gentle descent with good surface to Menai Bridge (toll, *1d.*) (2) On Anglesey side, keep **L** at *Britannia Inn* ($2\frac{1}{4}$). Long ascents with good surface, followed by a gentle descent to Llanfair ($4\frac{1}{2}$). Gentle undulations for a mile. Then rather steep ascent, followed by a gradual descent to Gaerwen ($7\frac{1}{4}$), and continuing for another mile. Then a short level piece, followed by sharp ascent, to cross-roads (10). Undulating, with long rises and falls, to Gwalchmai ($13\frac{3}{4}$). Mostly gently undulating to Bryngwran ($16\frac{1}{4}$). Gentle undulations, alternating with level stretches, to Holyhead Station ($23\frac{1}{4}$). The road in Anglesey is crossed by several gates, generally kept open. The surface is good throughout.

Carnarvon to Llanberis and Capel Curig.

Leave Carnarvon by Pool Street, at the uppermost angle of Castle Square. At bifurcation keep **L** $\frac{2}{3}$ into $\frac{1}{3}$ Llanberis Road. Long gentle ascent, followed by short descent to the

stream at Pont Rug (2/). Ascent steep at first, then gradual for more than a mile to cross-roads, where keep straight forward. Descent and then gradual ascent to Glyn Twrog (4). Long descent, beginning steeply, and then short level piece to Cwm-y-Glo (5). An ascent; then undulating, but mostly on the fall, and ending in a steep winding descent to Llanberis (7½). Surface good throughout.

From Llanberis, long ascent and similar descent, with fair surface, to Old Llanberis Church, 9¼ from Carnarvon. Stiff ascent, especially near summit, with rough surface, to Gorphwysfa (Pen-y-Pass) at the head of Llanberis Pass (12¾). Descending to Pen-y-Gwryd (13¾). Mostly descending, with rough surface and some steep gradients to Capel Curig (17¾).

Carnarvon to Beddgelert and Pen-y-Gwryd.

Leave Carnarvon by Pool Street, as above, but at first bifurcation keep **R**. Long and rather steep ascent to Llanbeblig Church (½). Steep descent to river, followed by ascents, mostly easy, and then a descent to a watersplash (generally rideable) (2½). Ascent for half a mile and then a long descent with sharp gradient towards the bottom and abrupt bend to **R** at a bridge, followed by easy running to Bettsw-Garmon Post Office (5¾). Gently undulating to Llyn-Quellyn (6¾). Nearly level for a mile and a half, and then ascents to summit level (661 feet), near Pitt's Head Rock (9¾). Downhill along winding road to Beddgelert (12½). Good surface throughout.

From Beddgelert to Pen-y-Gwryd (8 miles), rough road, mostly rising. Some steep gradients. Rather steep fall to bridge, 2¾ from Beddgelert.

Taken in the reverse direction, the descent should be entered upon with great care, as the gradient, gradual at first, becomes very steep towards Llyn Gwynant (3 miles from Pen-y-Gwryd).

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INTRODUCTION.

Scope of Book—Railway Facilities—Shrewsbury—Chester—
Pronunciation of Welsh Place Names—Books for Holiday
Reading—Mountaineering—Hotels and Tariffs.

THAT part of North Wales to which this book relates may be said, speaking generally, to extend from Snowdon, in the north, to Strata Florida, a few miles south of Aberystwyth, and from Aberdaron, the westernmost town of the Principality, to the lovely valley of the Dee around Llangollen. In other words, it describes the watering-places scattered along the coast from Nevin and Pwllheli in the north to Aberystwyth in the south, and the excursions from each, as well as the inland holiday-resorts in the Dee valley. It also outlines the various routes to the chief centres, and gives a sufficient description of Chester and Shrewsbury for tourists who break their journey at either of those places.

A companion volume in this series, **North Wales (Northern Section)**, deals with Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Carnarvon, Bangor, Anglesey, Bettws-y-coed, and all the more northerly part of Wales; while Tenby and other popular holiday resorts on the south coast are described in the volume on **South Wales**. A great part of **Central Wales** is described in the *Guide to Llandrindod Wells*.

The Railway Facilities

for reaching the various centres are excellent. The **London and North-Western** from Crewe and Shrewsbury connects with the **Cambrian Railways** at Whitchurch and at Welshpool. The **Great Western** enters the Dee Valley at Ruabon for Llangollen, Corwen, Bala and Dolgelley, where it connects with the Cambrian system for Barmouth and other Cardigan Bay resorts. The Great Western also runs from Carmarthen to its terminus at Aberystwyth, connecting Cardigan Bay with the South and West of England.

The **Great Central** connects at Wrexham with the Cambrian

Railways. A branch of the **Midland Railway** enters Wales by way of Hereford and joins the Cambrian line at Three Cocks Junction, a few miles north of Brecon.

The district itself is principally served by the **Cambrian Railways**, an important system of which the main line may be considered as, that from Whitchurch, *viâ* Oswestry (the head-quarters of the company) and Moat Lane to Aberystwyth, with branch lines up the coast to Pwllheli, and from Moat Lane southward to Brecon, and a number of short branch lines.

¹ Return Tickets, available for six months and permitting the journey to be broken at specified points, are issued daily throughout the year at all the principal stations on any of the lines in the United Kingdom.

ROUTES TO NORTH WALES.

Most travellers from England into North Wales pass through either Chester or Shrewsbury, and all who can do so should break the journey. Both places are of great interest and well worth a few hours' delay or even a night's stay.

(A) *Viâ* SHREWSBURY.

Shrewsbury is 162 miles from London by the London and North-Western, and 171 by the Great Western. The journey from London to Shrewsbury occupies about $3\frac{1}{4}$ hours by the Bicester route; thence to Aberystwyth (80 miles) about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Shrewsbury

stands in a horseshoe bend of the Severn. It is extremely interesting, principally on account of the many half-timbered houses which have stood in it for centuries. The population is about 30,000. The chief points can be noticed in a walk or drive of some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Under the name of Pengwern, Shrewsbury was the capital of a British kingdom. After the Norman Conquest it was held by the Conqueror's kinsman, Roger de Montgomery, who was made Earl of Shrewsbury and put in possession of nearly the whole of Shropshire. He was the builder of

¹ It should be understood throughout this book that references to travel facilities apply for the most part to normal times. During the War all cheap tickets and excursions have been withdrawn and a supplementary fare is charged on the ordinary tickets.

the **Castle**, one of the first objects seen on leaving the **Station** (G.W. and L. & N.W. Joint). The oldest portion of the Castle dates from Edward I. The Castle is now a private residence, and is not open to the public, but visitors can obtain permission to ascend a tower built by Telford, standing by itself in the grounds. To get to the entrance turn to the left on leaving the station, and in a short distance pass through the iron gates of a carriage drive on the left side of a Presbyterian Church (St. Nicholas), to another gateway guarding the grounds. No admittance after 1 p.m. or on Sundays.

Immediately beyond the Presbyterian Church is a **Gateway** bearing the date 1620, and belonging to an old Council House on the site of a building in which Edward I held the parliament that sentenced Llewelyn's brother David to be beheaded and quartered.

On the opposite side of the street a little short of the entrance to the Castle grounds on the way from the station, is a building now housing a **Free Museum** (rich in Roman relics) and a **Public Library** and **Reading Room**, but which was formerly **Shrewsbury School**, an institution counting Sir Philip Sidney, Judge Jeffreys and Charles Darwin among its "old boys." In front of the building is a **Statue of Darwin**. The present school is housed in a fine modern building on the other side of the river.

A few yards further along the main thoroughfare (Castle Street) we reach on the right a confectioner's shop, famed for its "Shrewsbury Cakes."

At the point where the main thoroughfare changes its name to **Pride Hill** stand the **Post Office** and the *Raven Hotel*. In the latter, some 200 years ago, George Farquhar wrote his play, *The Recruiting Officer*, the scene of which is laid at Shrewsbury.

Here turn left down **St. Mary's Street**, taking its name from **St. Mary's Church** (entrance by north and south gates). The Church is noted for its glass, said, as a whole, to be superior to that of any parish church in England, except Fairford, Gloucestershire. The nave belongs to the transitional period between Norman and Early English. The transept is Early English. At the east end is a Jesse window of fourteenth-century glass, originally in the Abbey of the Grey Friars. A three-light window on the north side of the chancel has scenes from the life of St. Bernard. It belongs to the sixteenth century, and was removed from the Abbey of Altenburg. The same applies to part of the middle window in the south aisle of the nave.

In the *Trinity Chapel*, on the south side of the chancel, is a tomb believed to be that of the Earl of Worcester, beheaded in 1403. Support is given to the supposition by the fact

that a headless skeleton was found beneath it many years ago. Under the tower is the monument of Bishop Butler, Head Master of Shrewsbury School before his elevation to the See of Lichfield.

Taking the first turning on the right out of St. Mary's Street, we at once reach **St. Alkmund's Church**. The original building is said to have been founded by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great. On the south side of St. Alkmund's churchyard is **St. Julian's Church**.

Bearing to the left so as to pass the east end of St. Julian's we descend to an ancient street called **Wyle Cop**. Turn to the left and go down, noting its old-time houses, one being "Ye auncient house in which King Henry the 7th slept when he went to Bosworth Field, August, 1485."

At the lower end of Wyle Cop we cross the Severn by the **English Bridge**, erected in 1769. Keep straight on, passing under the railway, to *Holy Cross*, or the **Abbey Church**, formerly part of a Benedictine Monastery, founded in 1083. It has a fine west front, and the interior is well worth inspection. (*Entrance by south door.*) This was the meeting-place of the "Great Parliament" held by Richard II in 1397. The destruction which befell the building after the dissolution of the monastery has been partly made good by the re-erection of the chancel and the clerestory.

The nave consists of five bays, of which three are Norman, the others Early English. A fine Early English arch divides it from the tower. There are several monuments of interest, most of them removed from other churches. At the west end of the north aisle are the effigies of Richard Onslow (d. 1571), robed as Speaker of the House of Commons, and his wife. In the south aisle is a mailed effigy, said to be that of Earl Roger, who died in 1095, and was the founder of the Abbey. On the wall against which it rests is a brass tablet inscribed in accordance with the tradition, but there are antiquaries who say that the mail belongs to a later date.

The road southward of the church is on the site of the cloisters. On its south side was the Refectory, and there, in a coal merchant's yard, is the Early English **Stone Pulpit** from which, during meals, one of the monks read a chapter from the Bible or a legend of the saints.

Recrossing the English Bridge, re-ascending Wyle Cop to where it forks, and there keeping to the left, we pass along **Beeches Lane**, which is continued by the **Town Walls**. The date of their erection is uncertain, but the earliest record points to the reign of Henry III. Following their course, we pass a tower on the left, the sole survivor of twenty that once formed part of the town defences. Still keeping straight on for some distance, we reach **New St. Chad's Church**, built,



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SHREWSBURY.

ABBAY CHURCH—ENGLISH BRIDGE—LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
(THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE).

North Wales II. Introduction.



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OLD HOUSES, FRANKWELL, SHREWSBURY.



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MARKET HOUSE, SHREWSBURY.

as is evident from its appearance, in the darkest of the dark days of church architecture. From its vicinity there is a fine view of the **Quarry**, a public riverside park of twenty-five acres, in which are held the *Shrewsbury Floral Fête* (usually about the middle of August) and other flower and agricultural shows. It is noted for its avenues, and the citizens claim that, in point of beauty, its only rival in the country are the "Backs" of the Colleges at Cambridge. The name is thought to be due to the existence of a stone quarry, now an ornamental lake. On the north side of the park are *Public Baths*. At the bottom of the central avenue is a *Statue of Hercules*, a copy of the Farnese statue at Rome.

By following the main avenue, and then turning to the left, along the bank of the Severn, we reach the *Ferry*, near which, on the opposite side of the river, is **Shrewsbury School**, formerly located, as has been said, near the station, until its success rendered necessary more commodious quarters.

Following the bank in the other direction we reach the Priory County School, on the site of *St. Austin's Priory*. During the excavations, human remains, believed to be those of people of importance killed in the Battle of Shrewsbury, were unearthed, and among the many interesting relics discovered was the base of a Watch Tower supposed to have been erected to protect the ford near the **Welsh Bridge**. The bridge, about a mile from the station, was built at the end of the 18th century. Across it is the suburb of **Frankwell**, where, at "the Mount," Charles Darwin was born in 1809.

Close to the bridge is a street bearing the curious name of the **Mardol**. Passing up this, we reach the **Market**, in the centre of the town. The station is to the left, along the main thoroughfare, and can be reached from this spot in less than ten minutes.

If time permits, the visitor should turn into **High Street**, the first thoroughfare on the right on the way to the station. In it, immediately on the right, is **Ireland's Mansion**. A few yards lower, but on the left, is **Owen's Mansion**. These are two of the finest half-timbered houses in Shrewsbury. The former was the town house of the Irelands of Albrighton. The latter bears on its front the words, "Erected by Richard Owen the elder, gentleman, ano. dni. 1592." A few steps farther is the **Square**, the centre of which is occupied by a picturesque **Market Hall**, erected in 1596. It is one of the finest buildings of the kind. At one end is a *Statue of Richard, Duke of York*, brought from the old Welsh Bridge when that structure was replaced. In front of the building is a *Statue of Lord Clive*, a native of the county. The Square also contains a **Shire Hall**, recently built, and a **Guild Hall**,

erected in 1837 on a site similarly occupied since 1275.

Another slight détour may be made with advantage into **Butcher Row**, on the right, about midway between High Street and the Post Office. It is entered from Pride Hill under a wooden archway, and is one of the best specimens of Shrewsbury's ancient streets. At the end of the row, on the right, stands the ancient Town House of the Abbots of Lilleshall.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north of the city is the site of the **Battle of Shrewsbury** (1403), in which Henry IV defeated Hotspur, and Falstaff "fought a long hour by Shrewsbury clock."

(B) *Viâ* CHESTER.

This route is of equal interest, though it is principally of service to travellers to the more northerly resorts of the Principality.

Chester.

was one of the chief stations of the Romans, by whom it was called *Deva*, after the river, while the name by which we know the city is the Saxon form of the Latin *castra* (a camp). After the withdrawal of the Romans it was reduced to ruin by the King of Northumbria in 607, and by the Danes in 894. The city was rebuilt in 909 by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great, who extended its bounds so as to include the site of the present Castle, which was erected by William the Conqueror. It was the last place of importance in England to submit to the leader of the Norman invaders, who bestowed it upon his nephew, Hugh Lupus. On Lupus William also conferred the dignity of Earl of Chester, a title which, since the time of Henry III, has been borne by the heir to the English throne. In the days of Edward I, Chester figured prominently in the wars between the English and the Welsh; in those of Charles I, it was the first city in the kingdom to declare for the King and the last to succumb to the Parliamentary forces. In 1659 an unsuccessful attempt was made to garrison it for Charles II. Since then, with the exception of the abortive Fenian raid of 1867, there has been nothing special to record respecting it.

The city is on the London and North-Western and the

Great Western main lines between London and the North. It is also served by the Great Central Railway and by the system controlled by the Cheshire Lines Committee. The **General Railway Station** is on the north-eastern side of the city. Electric tramcars run between the station and the centre of the city and the Castle at short intervals (fare, *1d.*).

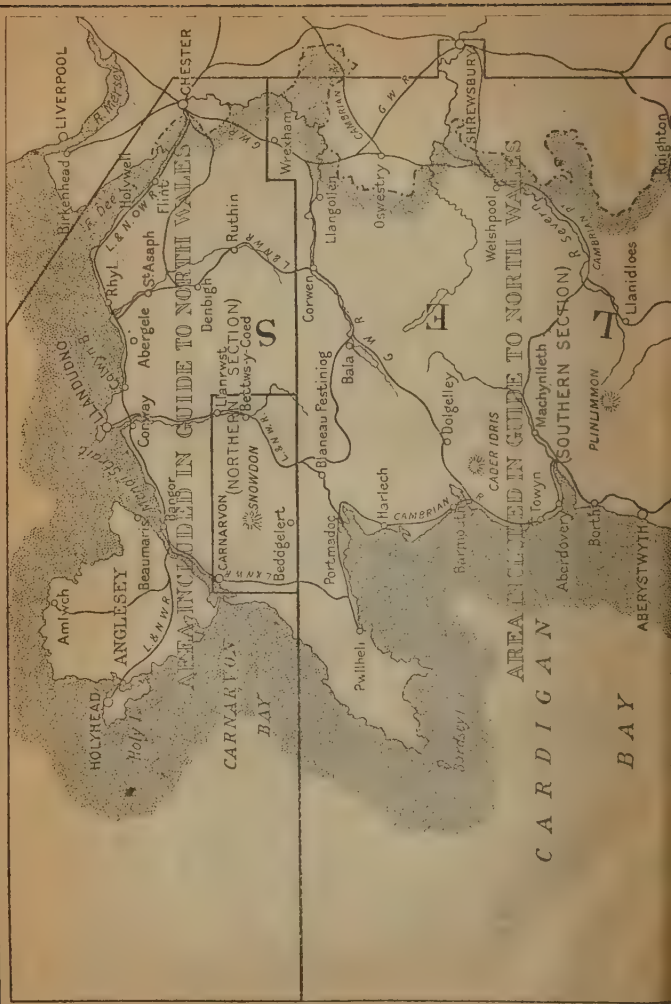
The first portion of the route is along City Road, which crosses the **Shropshire Union Canal**, a waterway that affords cheap communication with the River Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal on the north and various large manufacturing towns towards the south.

At the end of City Road, the passing visitor should turn to the right into **Foregate Street**. There he will obtain the first glimpse of the quaintness of the place. At the farther end of the thoroughfare is the **East Gate** of the old city, from very early times the principal means of egress and ingress. Here, as well as at various other spots, the ancient walls may be ascended. Having passed through the gate, we are in **Eastgate Street**, one of the four principal thoroughfares dating from the time of the Romans. The others are **Watergate Street** (a continuation of Eastgate Street), **Northgate Street** and **Bridge Street**. In these four ancient ways are situated—

The Rows,

which form the distinguishing architectural feature of Chester. Various theories have been advanced to account for them. Probably they are due to the lowering of the roadway in the construction of easier gradients. This would expose the cellars and suggest their conversion into shops. The original shops, having been made useless by the removal of the road, may then have been set back and the area occupied by their floors turned into an elevated footway, covered in by the overhanging upper storeys of the houses. The Rows constitute a very pleasant promenade, protected alike from sunshine and rain.

At the meeting-place of the four old Roman ways there formerly stood a cross, and **The Cross** is still the name of the space formed by the intersection of the streets. To the right is **Northgate Street**, a busy thoroughfare containing several interesting buildings and leading to the **Northgate Station** (Cheshire Lines Committee and Great Central Railway) and to the **Liverpool Road Station** (Great Central Railway). The **Gate** to which the thoroughfare owes its name was for a time the city prison, and as such was the scene of horrible cruelties inflicted upon members of the Society of Friends and other unhappy individuals. One of the notable sufferers confined within its walls was George Marsh, the



Chester martyr of the reign of Queen Mary. The place of his execution was near the present church in Boughton. It is marked by an obelisk erected in 1898.

Immediately on entering Northgate Street attention is challenged by a modernized Row. Beyond that, but on the left, are the **Market** and the **Town Hall**, the latter a very fine building. It was opened by King Edward VII before he came to the throne and in 1897 was partly destroyed by fire. *The interior is shown on application to the hall keeper.* On the opposite side of the street are the old gateway of **St. Werburgh's Abbey**, the **King's School**, founded by Henry VIII, and the western entrance to—

The Cathedral.

The edifice was rebuilt by Hugh, Earl of Chester, a nephew of William the Conqueror, in A.D. 1093 for a community of monks of the Benedictine order, on the site of an abbey founded in A.D. 660 by Wulpherus, King of Mercia, for his daughter Werburgh, sometime Abbess of Ely.*

The building was thoroughly restored by Sir Gilbert G. Scott between 1868 and 1876. It is almost entirely composed of the red sandstone of the district. The principal portions were erected during the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries, although considerable remains of the original Norman structure exist. The western entrance is formed of a Tudor arch under a square head, and above it is a fine Perpendicular window. The roof of the **Nave** is of panelled oak, its bosses ornamented with the coats of arms of persons connected with the city and its history. Between the baptistery and the north-east doorway, leading to the cloisters, are fine mosaics. Between nave and choir is a screen of elaborate woodwork, and over the stalls in the choir are some of the finest oak canopies in England. Some of the misereres are very quaint. The bishop's throne and the richly-carved pulpit in the choir (the gift of the Freemasons of Cheshire) are also worthy of attention. The easternmost portion of the Cathedral, the **Lady Chapel**, is entered from the North Choir aisle. On one of its bosses is depicted the murder of Thomas à Becket. In the Lady Chapel is the shrine of St. Werburgh or Werburga.

In the **North Transept** a large modern canopied tomb marks the resting-place of Bishop Pearson, who died in 1686. The **South Transept**, almost as large as the nave, was

* An alternative and shorter route to the Cathedral from Eastgate is by way of **St. Werburgh Street**, a thoroughfare lined by modern buildings after ancient patterns. It also affords a fine view of the Cathedral.

RAMWAYS + CHURCHES



PLAN OF THE CITY OF CHESTER. By Permission of the Chester Town Council.



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CHESTER CATHEDRAL.



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THE CHOIR, CHESTER CATHEDRAL.



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IN THE ROWS, CHESTER.



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HAWARDEN CASTLE.

formerly the parish church of St. Oswald. It contains a fine altar-tomb, with effigy, of the first Duke of Westminster (d. 1899). A chapel, recently restored by the Cheshire Regiment, contains the colours of the regiment and their South African Memorial. On the outside of the South Transept, near the south-east angle, are figures of Lord Beaconsfield, Dr. Kenealy, and Mr. Gladstone, the last-named holding his Vatican pamphlets.

The **Cloisters**, recently restored, on the north side of the Cathedral, are in the style of the fifteenth century. In the east walk is the entrance to the vestibule of the **Chapter House**, both the vestibule and the chapter room being fine specimens of Early English at its best. In the north walk is the chief entrance to the old **Refectory**, which still contains a fine reader's pulpit approached by a staircase in the wall.

Watergate Street, running westward from the Cross, has yielded many Roman and mediæval relics, and contains several buildings belonging to past days.

Near the upper end, on the left, is **God's Providence House**, so called from the inscription on the front, "God's Providence is mine inheritance." It bears the date 1652, but has been rebuilt, the old materials being used as far as possible. Tradition has it that the house was the only dwelling in Chester not visited by the plague which devastated the city in the seventeenth century, and that the owner placed the inscription on the front in acknowledgment of his preservation. Below, on premises occupied by Messrs. Quellyn Roberts & Co., is an Early English crypt, to which visitors are admitted. No. 21 is the **Old Leche House**, and lower down the street is **Bishop Lloyd's Palace**, famed for its richly carved front. It bears the date 1615 and the prelate's arms. He was translated from the Manx see to the diocese of Chester in 1605.

At the junction of Watergate Street with Nicholas Street is the **Yacht Inn**, a good specimen of an old English hostelry. Here Dean Swift, annoyed that none of the Cathedral dignitaries responded to his invitation to sup with him, scratched on a window-pane the following couplet:—

" Rotten without and mouldering within,
This place and its clergy are nearly akin."

Just beyond Nicholas Street a passage opens into a court, on the west side of which is a remnant of **Derby House**, formerly a palace of the Stanleys. It was built in 1591, and is the oldest specimen of a house of its kind in Chester. In it the Earl of Derby spent the day preceding his execution at Bolton in 1651. The Watergate and the tract adjoining its western side are the subjects of a note on another page.

Bridge Street, which leads southward from the Cross to the Bridge Gate, is remarkable for the number of **Roman Remains** found in it. The chief is the **Roman Bath**, below the level of the street, at No. 39. It consists of two rooms in a remarkable state of preservation and easily accessible.

Calling for notice in the lower part of the street are **Gamul House** on the left and the **Bear and Billet Inn** below it, on the right. The former was the residence of Charles I when he visited the city during the siege; while the old inn was the residence of the Earls of Shrewsbury, Sergeants of the Bridge Gate. Just beyond the gate is the **Old Dee Bridge**, of which the greater part was built about the close of the thirteenth century. Until 1832 it was the only bridge over the Dee at Chester, and was consequently the only way for all traffic between Chester and North Wales.

The tramcars run about half-way down Bridge Street, and then enter **Grosvenor Street**, which branches off on the right and contains the entrance to the **Castle**, part of which dates from the time of William I. That monarch visited the Castle after he had laid waste the north-eastern counties. Several of his successors lodged within its walls when engaged in expeditions against the Welsh, and it was the resting-place for one night of Richard II when on his way from Flint Castle to London to resign the crown. Some of the buildings are now used as barracks and others as the Shire Hall and the Assize Court. In 1867 a party of Fenians made an unsuccessful attempt to seize the arms stored within the Castle. The oldest portion of the buildings is a square block known as *Cæsar's Tower*, situated behind the guard-room.

In the vicinity of the Castle entrance is the **Grosvenor Museum**, noteworthy for its collection of Roman remains, and for specimens of the birds and insects of Cheshire and North Wales. (*Admission, 3d. Wednesdays free.*)

Beyond the Castle, Grosvenor Street is continued by Grosvenor Road, which passes the **Roodee** (the race-course, etc.) and is carried over the river by the **Grosvenor Bridge**, opened in 1832 by the young princess who was afterwards Queen Victoria. The tramcars run over the bridge, pass the Cemetery and then enter the road to Hawarden, whose famous castle is about 7 miles from Chester.

A Walk on the Walls

must be undertaken by those who desire to know Chester. They are the most complete city walls in England, and give a good idea of what at one time was considered an adequate defence for a populous and wealthy place. They vary in height from twelve to forty feet, and afford an uninterrupted promenade some two miles in circumference. The walls

may be ascended at any of the four gates, and at other spots. The point of ascent nearest the station is at the East Gate. Ascending the steps on the north side and turning to the right, the Cathedral is quickly passed, and just beyond it is the **Kale-Yard Gate**, a passage enabling the monks of St. Werburgh to get to their kitchen garden, or kale-yard, without going round by the East Gate.

A little farther is the **Phoenix, or King Charles's Tower** (*admission, 1d.*), perhaps the most interesting building in connection with the walls. It takes the name Phoenix from the crest of a city guild which it bears. As the inscription above the doorway states, King Charles witnessed from this tower the defeat of his army at Rowton Moor. The Moor is about 3 miles distant, and although it gives its name to the engagement, which may have begun there, the most serious part of the fighting took place in the vicinity of the present General Railway Station.

Leaving the Phoenix Tower the **North Gate** is crossed. Below, on the other side of the Canal, is the **Blue Coat Hospital**, founded by Bishop Stratford in 1700. It now educates, clothes and lodges thirty-two boys. Near at hand is another ancient foundation, the **Hospital of St. John the Baptist**. In the vicinity of the North Gate may be seen remains of the original Roman walls. They terminate in a cornice 6 feet below the parapet.

Passing on, we come to an ancient watch-tower, known as **Morgan's Mount**, from which a fine view of the surrounding country and of the Welsh hills is obtained. In the middle distance is Hawarden Castle. Beyond Morgan's Mount is the remnant of a tower formerly called the Goblin Tower, but now **Pemberton's Parlour**. Passing through it we see, inside the city walls, the **Barrow Field**, once the drill-ground of Roman soldiers, and, at a later date, a burial-place for victims of the plague.

At the corner, before turning along the west wall, is an edifice, consisting principally of two towers, erected in 1322, the higher one being called **Bonewaldesthorpe's** and the lower the **Water Tower**. The former is now used as a museum. In bygone days the tidal water of the river Dee washed against the lower tower, and vessels were moored to rings inserted in the wall.

After passing the **Infirmary** and the **Queen's School**, the **West, or Water Gate** is reached. This is another structure that once had the river flowing close to it, and, like the other gateways, is comparatively new (1789).

Instead of the river the eye now rests on the **Roodee**, a famous race-course, the drill-ground of Territorial and other troops, and the site of various fêtes. Time was when at every tide this area was flooded, with the exception of one small portion near the centre, on which stood a wooden

cross, from which the spot obtained its name of Rôod Eye, the "island of the cross."

Continuing along the walls, we arrive at the **Castle**, which has already been described, and next reach the **South, or Bridge Gate**, rebuilt in 1782, the gate leading to the **Dee Bridge**, a structure dating from the thirteenth century.

The remaining portion of the walls is uninteresting, and therefore, instead of completing the circuit, the visitor who is not pressed for time will be well advised in proceeding from the Bridge Gate to the river bank, where, by going upstream, he will pass through the **Groves**, or down the Recorder's Steps, a hundred yards farther, and reach the **Landing-Stage**. Here, at moderate rates, boats can be hired for an excursion to **Eaton Hall**, the residence of the Duke of Westminster, 5 miles distant. Steamers and electric launches also run thither, the landing-place being Eccleston Ferry, where light refreshments can be obtained. It is about ten minutes' walk to the Hall, to which visitors are admitted *on payment of 1s. each*, the proceeds being devoted to local charities. The beautiful gardens can also be viewed (*admission, 6d.*). The road-route to the Hall is considerably shorter than the water-way, and the journey can be made by brake, 'bus or cab.

At the junction of Souters Lane and the Groves is the **Bishop's Palace**, and a little higher up the river is a **Suspension Bridge**, erected for the convenience of the residents of Queen's Park, on the south side of the river, when the estate was laid out for building purposes about the middle of last century.

By taking the turning on the left, opposite the northern end of the Suspension Bridge, we can reach **Grosvenor Park**, a public recreation ground given to the city by the second Marquis of Westminster, a statue of whom stands at the east end of the long walk.

On the other side is the **Church of St. John the Baptist**, next to the Cathedral the most interesting ecclesiastical edifice in the city. It was begun about 1075, and was intended for the cathedral of the diocese that included Lichfield and Chester, but Coventry was chosen to be the seat of the bishop. The revenues were confiscated by Edward VI, and the fabric was much mutilated, but the nave was allowed to remain for use as the Parish Church. The north-east clock tower and belfry were erected in 1887. The west window, presented by the late Duke of Westminster, illustrates the history of the city from the massacre of the monks of Bangor-is-y-coed, in 613, to the restoration of episcopacy in 1660.

In the immediate neighbourhood of the church, but in private grounds, are the ruins of **St. John's Priory**.

By bearing slightly to the right and then proceeding along

Love Street, or by turning first to the left, next to the right, and then following St. John Street to the right, the visitor will arrive at Foregate Street and the East Gate.

The Pronunciation of Welsh Names.

If the stranger in Wales cares to set himself the task of learning the sounds of each of the Welsh letters, the difficulty of pronouncing the place-names of the Principality will disappear. With the exception of *y* every character has a constant sound, which it retains in every variety of combination, and no letter is ever mute, although it may be so rapidly passed over that the untrained ear may fail to catch it. The accentuation, too, is governed by one general rule, which is this: All words of more than one syllable have the accent on the last syllable but one, excepting only a few instances, in which the last syllable, being either aspirated or circumflexed, takes the accent. Nearly all place-names are pictures, in the character of descriptions, which well repay learning. In order to aid the traveller in Wales, we append the Welsh alphabet, with an approximate indication of the sound of each character; *W* and *y* are vowels.

A, as *a* English, in *man*; when circumflexed, as in *bard*, *glass*, etc.

B, as *b* English.

C, as *k* English, or *c* hard, as in *can*, *come*; etc.; never soft as in *cease*, *city*, etc.

Ch. This is a strong guttural sound, and has no equivalent in English. It is a prolonged *k* (ach).

D, as *d* in English.

Dd, as *th* English, in *then*, *they*, etc.; never as in *think*, *third*, etc.

E, as *e* English, in *ten*, *fen*, etc., but when circumflexed, as *a* in *dame*, *came*, etc.

F, as *v* in *vile*, *very*, etc., or as *f* English, in *of*.

Ff, as *f* English, in *fan*, *fight*, etc., or as *ff* in *off*.

G, as *g* English, in *gain*, *get*, *gone*, etc.; never soft as in *gin*, *gender*, etc.

H, as *h* English, in *hand*, *house*, etc.

I, as *i* English, in *hid*, *bid*, *rid* etc.; when circumflexed, as *ee* in *fleet*, *keep*, etc.

L, as *l* English.

Ll, can be represented in English only by *thl*.

M, as *m* English.

N, as *n* English.

Ng, as *ng* in the English words *bring*, *king*, *long*, etc.

O, as *o* English, in *gone*, etc.; when circumflexed it is pronounced long, as in *bone*, *note*, etc.

P, as *p* English.

Ph, as *ph* English, in *physic*, *philosophy*, etc.

R, as *r* English.

Rh, as *rh* English, in *rhetoric*, *rheum*, etc.

S, as *s* English, in *sense*, *since*, etc.

T, as *t* English, in *ton*, *tun*, *temper*, etc.

Th, as *th* English, in *thanks*, *thick*, *death*; never as in *then*, *they*, etc.

U as English, in *bliss, miss, this*; when circumflexed, as *ee* in *green, seen*, or like *u* French, in *une, feu*.

W, as *oo* English, in *good*; when circumflexed, as in *fool, spoon*, etc.

Y, in any other syllable except the last, is pronounced like

the *u* in *but, hunt*, etc.; in the last, like *i* in *din* or *sin*. These two sounds are well exemplified by the word *sun-dry*, the *u* and *y* of which represent the *y* in its relative positions. When circumflexed *y* is exactly the same as *u* (which see).

The following six letters are not found in the Welsh language: *J, K, Q, V, X* and *Z*. *J* is supplied by *si* or *i*. *K* is supplied by *c* or *ch*. *Q*, in words taken from other languages, is expressed by *cw*, as *cwestiwn*—question. *V* is supplied by a single *f*. *X*, in foreign words having this letter, is indicated by *cs*, as *Ecsodus*—*Exodus*. *Z* is supplied by *s*.

Welsh Place-Names.

These pronunciations can only be given approximately, a number of Welsh sounds having no precise English equivalents.

Abergele	<i>ab-ber-gel-ley</i>	Fammau	<i>vamma</i>
Ardudwy	<i>ar-did-ooy</i>	Glyndyfrdwy	<i>glun-duv'r-dooe</i>
Beaumaris	<i>bo-morris</i>	Llandudno	<i>thlandidno</i>
Beddgelert	<i>beth-gelert</i>	Llandulas	<i>thlandilàs</i>
Bettws-y-Coed	<i>bettoos-i-koed</i>	Machynlleth	<i>mak-unth-leth</i>
Bodelwyddan	<i>bod-el-wuthan</i>	Pen-y-Gwryd	<i>penny-goorid</i>
Bont-ddu	<i>bont-thee</i>	Pwllheli	<i>poolthelley</i>
Capel-Curig	<i>kappel-kirrig</i>	Rhyl	<i>rhil</i>
Clwyd	<i>clooid</i>	Ruthin	<i>rithin</i>
Diphwys	<i>dif-foos</i>	Siabod	<i>shabbod</i>
Dolgelley	<i>dol-geth-ley</i>	Taliesin	<i>tal-yess-in</i>
Dolwyddelen	<i>dolwuthelen</i>	Tal-y-Llyn	<i>tal-e-thlin</i>
Dwygyfylchi	<i>doo-e-guv-ul-ke</i>	Wnion	<i>oo-ni-on</i>

Books for Holiday Reading.

As the interest of a holiday is greatly increased by the perusal of books relating to the district visited, readers may be glad to have the titles of works dealing with Welsh life and thought: *Flame Bearers of Welsh History*, *The Jewels of Ynys Galon* and *The White Rose of Arno*, by Owen Rhoscomyl; *Owen Rees*, by Eleazar Roberts; *The Little Widow*, by William Tirebuck; *Sweetheart Gwen*, a charming Welsh farming idyll; *Aylwin*, by Theodore Watts-Dunton; *Llanartro*, a Welsh idyll, *A Tangled Garden* and *The Years that Came After*, and others by Mrs. Fred Reynolds; *A Welsh Singer*, by Berwen Banks, and other stories by Allen Raine; *John Jones, Curate*, by Gwendolyn Pryce; *Mushroom Town*, by Oliver Onions; *Megan of the Dark Isle* (Moelfre), by Mrs. J. O. Arnold; *Bladys of the Stewponey* (Shrewsbury), by

S. Baring-Gould; *Hill Magic*, by D. Hugh Price, and *The Wooing of Mifanwy* and *The Winning of Gwenora*, by E. C. Kenyon. Charles Kingsley's *Two Years Ago* has scenes at Beddgelert.

Of more serious interest are Lady Charlotte Guest's *Mabinogion*; Rhys's *Celtic Britain and Wales*, *The Land of Arthur, Its Heroes and Heroines*; Owen Glendwr and the Last Struggle for Welsh Independence, by A. G. Bradley; *Welsh Ballads*, by E. Rhys; *Wales and a Short History of Welsh Literature*, by Owen M. Edwards; *Highways and Byways in North Wales*, and the English translation of Daniel Owen's *Rhys Lewis*, of which Mr. Gladstone said, "Its delineations of the Welsh character are the best I have seen." *Wild Wales*, by George Borrow, is a fascinating description of a tour by the writer in 1854. *Bird Life in Wild Wales*, by J. Walpole-Bond, *Fishing in North Wales*, by W. M. Gallichan, and *Motor Tours through North Wales* are publications that some visitors will like to have. A good general history of Wales is that in two volumes by Professor Lloyd, of Bangor.

Mountaineering.

The majority of those who use this book will probably be content with climbing Cader Idris, or ascending and descending Snowdon by the railroad or by one of the most frequented footpaths, and therefore will need to make little or no special provision for their guidance or safety. Of those who find pleasure in getting off the beaten tracks, there may be some who need reminding that no excursion to unfrequented spots should be undertaken without a reliable map on a large scale and a pocket compass. In using the latter it must be remembered that the needle does not point to the true north. Roughly speaking, its direction at the present time in Great Britain is to a point some $18^{\circ}5'$ to the west of north.

In addition to the above requisites, the outfit should include a stout stick, a waterproof, and a well-filled sandwich-box.

If a climber is overtaken by a mist, the safest plan is to descend by the side of a stream, taking care to avoid precipices.

Hotels and Tariffs.

There is rarely difficulty in securing suitable accommodation in North Wales, though during July, August, and September early inquiry is desirable. In all the principal touring centres and seaside resorts excellent hotels and boarding-houses are to be found and many of the residents are prepared to let apartments.

The tariffs in the following list were originally supplied by the hotel proprietors themselves, but the War has led to so many changes of management and fluctuations of price that the terms are now only inserted as an approximate guide to the grade of establishment. In all cases prices should be ascertained by previous enquiry.

Week-end terms include dinner or supper on Saturday and breakfast on Monday. Where the accommodation includes *Motor Garage* a note to that effect is made.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *L.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Aberayron.

Feather's Royal.
Lloyd Jack Arms.

Aberdaron.

Ty Newydd: *R.*, single, 1/6; double, 2/-; *b.*, 1/3; *L.*, 1/6; *t.*, 9d.; *d.*, 2/-.

Boarding terms: 5/- per day;
30/- per week; 10/6 per week-end. *Motor Garage*.

Aberdovey.

Dovey.

Gwalia (*temp.*): *R.*, single, 2/-; double, 3/6; *b.*, 1/3; *L.*, 1/6; *t.*, 8d.; *d.*, 1/9.

Boarding terms: 5/6 per day;
35/- per week.

Abersoch.

St. Tudwell's.

Aberystwyth.

Queen's.

Belle Vue.

Lion: *R.*, single, 3/6; double, 7/-; *b.*, 2/6; *L.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day;
fr. 52/6 per week.

Gwalia, (*temp.*)

Victoria, Marine Parade.

Plynlimon, Marine Parade (*boarding*).

Tariff on application.

Bryn-y-Mor.

Arthog.

Arthog Hall: *R.*, single, fr. 3/-; double, fr. 5/-; *b.*, 2/6; *L.*, 2/6; *t.*, fr. 1/-; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day;
fr. 63/- per week; 21/6 per week-end. *Motor Garage*.

Bala.

White Lion, High Street.

Plascoch, High Street: *R.*, single, 2/6; double, 3/6; *b.*, 2/-; *L.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 3/-; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: 9/- per day;
52/6 per week; 21/- per week-end.

Barmouth.

Cors-y-Gedol, High Street: *R.*, single, 6/6; double, 12/-; *b.*, 3/6; *L.*, 3/6; *t.*, 1/6; *d.*, 6/6.

Boarding terms: 16/6 per day;
112/6 per week.

Marine, Marine Terrace.

Lion: *R.*, single, fr. 2/6; double, fr. 4/6; *b.*, 2/-; *L.*, fr. 2/-; *t.*, fr. 1/-; *d.*, 3/-; *a.*, 6d.

[**ABBREVIATIONS.**—*R.*, bedroom; *b.*, breakfast; *l.*, luncheon; *t.*, tea; *d.*, dinner; *a.*, attendance; *fr.*, from; *temp.*, temperance.]

Boarding terms: 9/6 per day;
63/- per week; 17/6 per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Hendre Hall.

West End House (boarding).

Myn-y-Mor: fr. 6/- per day; fr.
42/- per week.

Brynhyfryd.

Gwalla.

Midland (temp.).

Beddgelert.

Royal Goat: *R.*, single, fr. 4/-;
double, fr. 7/6; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6;
t., 1/-; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 63/- per
week. Motor Garage.

Saracen's Head: *R.*, single, 2/6;
double, 4/-; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: 42/- per week.
Motor Garage.

Prince Llewellyn: *R.*, fr. 2/6; *b.*,
fr. 2/-; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 2/6.

Boarding terms: 6/6 per day;
fr. 30/- per week. Motor
Garage.

Blaenau Festiniog.

North-Western: *R.*, single, 3/-;
double, 5/-; *b.* or *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-;
d., 3/6.

Boarding terms: 8/- per day;
50/- per week; 21/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Queen's.

Maenofferen: *R.*, single, 2/-; double,
2/6; *b.*, fr. 1/3; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*, fr. 1/3;
d., 2/6; *a.*, 6d.

Boarding terms: 6/6 per day;
fr. 35/- per week; 7/6 per
week-end. Motor Garage.

Borth.

Cambrian: *R.*, single, fr. 2/6; double,
fr. 4/6; *b.*, fr. 1/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 3/6; *a.*, 1/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 8/- per day;
fr. 15/- per week-end.

Carnarvon.

Royal: *R.*, single, 4/6; double, 8/6;
b., 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-; *d.*, 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day;
fr. 63/- per week. Motor Gar-
age.

Sportsman: *R.*, single, 4/-; double,
6/-; *b.*, 2/6; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/3; *d.*,
4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per
day; 63/- per week; 21/-
per week-end. Motor Garage.

Chester.

Queen's: *R.*, single, fr. 4/6; double,
fr. 8/-; *b.*, 3/-; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*, 1/-;
d., 5/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms by arrangement.

Grosvenor.

Bull and Stirrup, Northgate: *R.*,
single, 2/6; double, 4/-; *b.*, 2/-;
l., 2/6; *t.*, 2/-; *d.*, 3/6.

Boarding terms: 8/- per day;
50/- per week; 15/- per week-
end.

Hop-Pole.

Blossoms.

Chirk.

Hand.

Corris.

Braehgoch.

Slaters' Arms: *R.*, single, 2/-;
double, 4/-; *b.*, 1/6; *l.*, 2/-; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 2/6.

Boarding terms: 30/6 per week;
10/6 per week-end.

Corwen.

Owen Glyndwr: *R.*, single, 2/6;
double, 4/-; *b.*, 2/-; *l.*, 2/6; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 3/-; *a.*, 1/-.

Boarding terms: 7/6 per day;
42/- per week; 17/6 per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Crown: *R.*, single, 2/-; double, 3/-;
b. or *l.*, 1/6; *t.*, fr. 9d.; *d.*, 2/6; *a.*,
nil.

Boarding terms: 5/- per day;
30/- per week; 10/6 per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Cambria (temp.).

Criceleth.

George.

Marine: *R.*, single, fr. 3/-; double,
fr. 5/-; *b.*, fr. 2/-; *l.*, fr. 2/-; *t.*,
1/-; *d.*, 4/-; *a.*, nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day;
52/6 per week.

Caerwylan (private).

[ABBREVIATIONS.—R., bedroom; b., breakfast; l., luncheon; t., tea; d., dinner
a., attendance; fr., from; temp., temperance.]

Devil's Bridge.

Hafod Arms: R., single, fr. 3/6;
double, fr. 6/-; b., fr. 2/6; l., fr.
2/-; t., 9d.; d., 3/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 9/- per day;
63/- per week; 17/6 per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Dinas Mawddwy.

Buckley Arms.

Peniarth Arms: R., single, 3/6;
double, 5/-; b. or l., 2/6; t., 1/-;
d., 3/6.

Boarding terms: 10/- per day;
50/- per week-end. Motor
Garage.

Dolgelley.

Golden Lion Royal.

Royal Ship: R., single, fr. 3/-;
double, 5/-; b. or l., 2/6; t., 1/-;
d., 4/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/6 per day;
63/- per week; 20/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Elunion (private): R., single, fr. 2/-;
double, fr. 2/6; b., fr. 1/-; l., fr.
1/6; t., fr. 1/-; d., fr. 2/-; a., 6d.

Boarding terms: fr. 6/- per day;
fr. 35/- per week.

Fairbourne.

Ynysfaig Hall: R., single, 2/6;
double, 5/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/6; t.,
1/-; d., 3/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 7/6 per day;
fr. 52/6 per week; 18/- per
week-end. Motor Garage.

Festiniog.

Abbey Arms.

Pengwern Arms: R., single, 2/6;
double, 3/6; b., 2/-; l., 2/-; t.,
1/-; d., 3/6; a., 1/-.

Boarding terms: 7/6 per day;
50/- per week. Motor Garage.

Glyndyfrdwy.

Berwyn Arms: R., single, 2/6;
double, 4/-; b. or l., 2/-; t., 1/-;
d., fr. 2/6; a., nil.

Boarding terms: 7/6 per day;
42/- per week; 12/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Harlech.

Castle: R., single, 4/-; double, 8/-;
l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 4/-.

Boarding terms: 11/- per day;
73/6 per week; 21/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

St. David's.

Queen's.

Lake Gwernan.

Gwernan Villa.

Llanbedr.

Victoria: R., single, 2/-; double,
3/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/-; t., 1/-; d.,
3/-; a., 1/-.

Boarding terms: 7/6 per day;
50/6 per week. Motor Garage.

Llanberis.

Royal Victoria: R., single, 3/6;
double, 5/-; b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t.,
1/-; d., 4/6; a., 1/6.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day;
73/6 per week; fr. 21/- per
week-end. Motor Garage.

Snowdon Summit: Sup. r., b., 10/-;
l., 2/6; t., fr. 1/6.

Boarding terms: 63/- per week;
fr. 21/- per week-end.

Castle: R., single, fr. 2/-; double,
fr. 3/-; b., fr. 1/6; l., 2/-; t.,
fr. 1/-; d., fr. 2/6; a., 1/-.

Boarding terms: fr. 7/- per day;
fr. 42/- per week.

Llanfihangel-y-Pennant (near Towyn).

Peniarth Arms.

Llangollen.

Hand: R., single, fr. 2/6; double, fr.
4/6; b. or l., fr. 2/6; d., fr. 4/-;
a., 1/6.

Boarding terms: fr. 10/- per day;
fr. 63/- per week. Motor Gar-
age.

Royal: R., single, 3/-; double, 5/6;
b. or l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 4/-; a.,
1/-.

Boarding terms: 10/6 per day;
63/- per week; 21/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Grapes.

Llanuwchllyn.

Goat.

Machynlleth.

Lion: R., single, 3/6; double, 6/-;
b., 2/6; l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 3/6;
a., nil.

Boarding terms: fr. 51/6 per
week; fr. 18/- per week-end.

Glyndwr.

Wynnstay and Herbert.

[ABBREVIATIONS.—R., bedroom; b., breakfast; l., luncheon; t., tea; d., dinner;
a., attendance; fr., from; temp., temperance.]

Maentwrog.

Grapes.
Oakeley Arms.

Nevin.

Nanhoron Arms: R., single, 2/6;
double, 4/-; b., 1/9; l., 2/6; t.,
1/-; d., 3/-.
Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day;
fr. 50/- per week. Motor
Garage.

Penmaenpool.

George: R., single, 2/-; double, 3/6;
b., fr. 1/6; l., 2/-; t., 1/6; d.,
3/-.
Boarding terms: 7/6 per day;
42/- per week; 15/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Penrhyndeudraeth.

Bodawen (temp.).

Portmadoc.

Sportsman.
Queen's: R., single, 3/6; double,
5/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/-; t., 1/-; d.,
3/6.
Boarding terms: 8/- per day;
52/6 per week; 21/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Commercial.
Royal.

Pwllheli.

West End: R., single, fr. 4/-; double,
fr. 7/-; b. or l., 2/6; t., 1/-; d., 4/-.
Boarding terms: fr. 8/6 per day;
fr. 63/- per week. Motor
Garage.
London (temp.).
South Beach.

Quellyn Lake.

Snowdon Ranger: R., single, 2/-;
double, 3/-; b., 2/-; l., 2/6; t.,
1/-; d., 2/9.
Boarding terms: 8/- per day;
50/- per week; 14/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Ruabon.

Wynnstay Arms.

Shrewsbury.

George.
Clarendon, Pride Hill: R., single, 3/6;
double, 6/6; b., 2/-; l., 2/6;
t., 1/6; d., 3/-; a., nil.

Royal Lion.

Jones (temp.), Castle Gates.
Sabrina: R., single, 2/6; double, 4/-;
b. or t., 1/6; l. or d., 2/-.
Boarding terms: 6/6 per day;
42/- per week; 10/6 per week-
end.

Tal-y-llyn Lake.

Penybont: R., single, 2/-; double,
3/-; b., 1/6; l., 1/6; t., fr. 6d.;
d., 2/6.
Boarding terms: 6/6 per day;
42/- per week; 12/- per week-
end. Motor Garage.

Tyn-y-Groes.
Royal.

Tan-y-bwlch.

Oakeley Arms.
Grapes.

Towyn.

Whitehall: R., single, 3/-; double,
4/-; b., 2/-; l., fr. 2/-; t., fr. 1/-;
d., fr. 3/-; a., nil.
Boarding terms: 9/6 per day;
fr. 52/6 per week; 18/- per
week-end. Motor Garage.

Corbett Arms.

Tyn-y-Groes.

Tyn-y-Groes.

WARD, LOCK & Co.'s

GUIDE BOOKS

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Aberystwyth
 Aldeburgh-on-Sea
 Anglesey and North Wales
 Bangor, &c.
 Barmouth, &c.
 Barnstaple and N.W. Devon
 Bath, Wells, &c.
 Bettws-y-Coed, Snowdon, &c.
 Berhill and District
 Biddeford, Westward Ho! &c.
 Bognor and S.W. Sussex
 Bournemouth and District
 Brecon and South Wales
 Bridlington and District
 Bridport, West Bay, &c.
 Brighton and Hove
 Broads, The
 Broadstairs and N.E. Kent
 Bude and North Cornwall
 Budleigh Salterton, &c.
 Buxton and Peak District
 Canterbury and N.E. Kent
 Cardiff and South Wales
 Carnarvon and North Wales
 Channel Islands
 Chichester and S.W. Sussex
 Clevedon and District
 Colwyn Bay
 Conway, Deoranwy, &c.
 Criccieth and Cardigan Bay
 Cromer and District
 Dartmoor
 Dawlish and S.E. Devon
 Deal, Walmer, &c.
 Dover, St. Margaret's Bay, &c.
 Dovercourt, Harwich, &c.
 Eastbourne, Seaford, &c.
 Exeter and S.E. Devon
 Exmouth and District
 Falmouth and S. Cornwall
 Felixstowe and District
 Filey and District
 Folkestone, Sandgate, &c.
 Fowey and South Cornwall
 Harrogate and District
 Hastings, St. Leonards, &c.
 Hereford and Wye Valley
 Herne Bay, Whitstable, &c.
 Hythe, Littlestone, &c.
 Ilfracombe and N. Devon
 Isle of Man
 Isle of Wight
 Lake District, The

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen, Deeside, &c.
 Edinburgh and District
 Glasgow and the Clyde
 Highlands, The
 Inverness and N. Highlands
 Oban and W. Highlands

Leamington, Warwick, &c.
 Littlehampton and S.W. Sussex
 Liverpool, Birkenhead, &c.
 Llandrindod Wells, &c.
 Llandudno and N. Wales
 Llangollen, Corwen, Bala, &c.
 Looe and South Cornwall
 London and Environs
 Lowestoft and District
 Lyme Regis and District
 Lynton and Lynmouth
 Malvern and District
 Margate and N.E. Kent
 Matlock, Dovedale, &c.
 Minehead, Exmoor, &c.
 Newquay and N. Cornwall
 Nottingham and District
 Paignton and S. Devon
 Penmaenmawr, Llanfairfechan, &c.
 Penzance and West Cornwall
 Plymouth and S.W. Devon
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 Ramsgate, Sandwich, &c.
 Rhyi and N. Wales
 Ripon and District
 St. Ives and W. Cornwall
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 Seaton and District
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 Wales, North (Southern Section)
 Wales, South
 Warwick, Kenilworth, &c.
 Wells, Glastonbury, &c.
 Weston-super-Mare
 Weymouth and District
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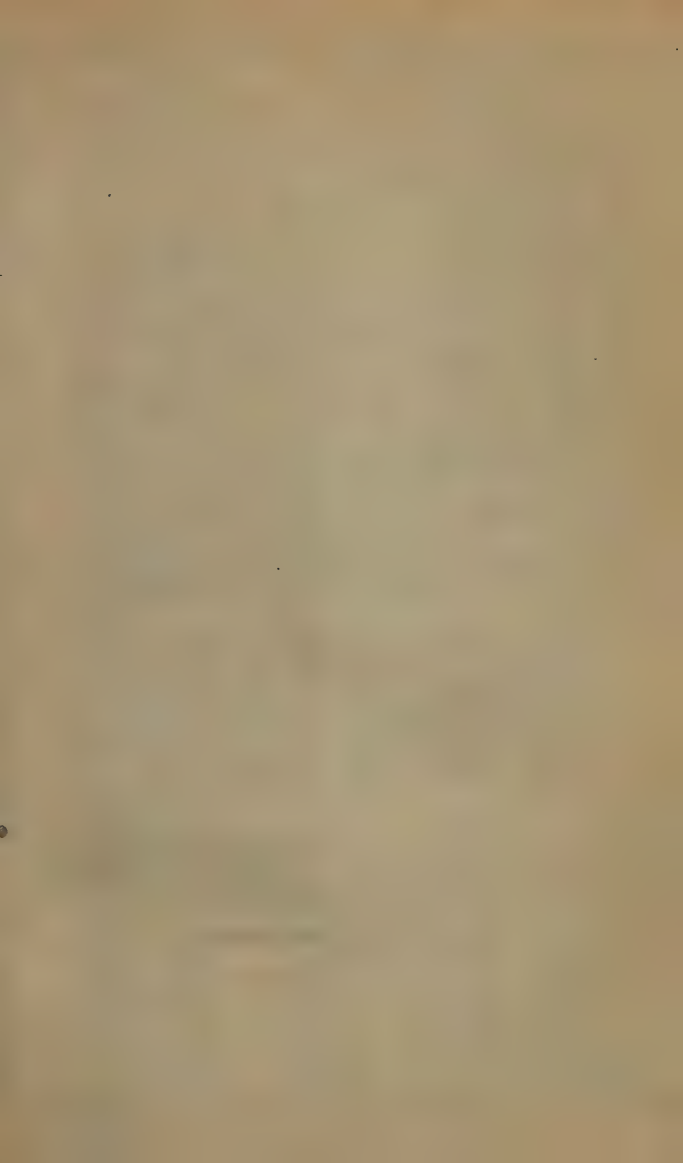
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Lake District, The
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Constitution Hill
Aberystwyth

PLAN OF ABERYSTWYTH

Scale of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Mile

C
A
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ABERYSTWYTH.

Owing to conditions brought about by the War, the following details are liable to alteration.

Access.—Aberystwyth is the southerly coast terminus of the Cambrian Railways, which connect with the London and North-Western and the Great Western at Welshpool, the London and North-Western at Whitchurch, and the Great Central at Wrexham. It is also a terminus of the Manchester and Milford section of the Great Western Railway, which communicates with Carnarthen, Swansea, Cardiff, Bristol and the West of England, as well as with Gloucester, London, and the South of England. In normal times through-express trains run from London to Aberystwyth in about 6½ hours, from Birmingham in less than 4½ hours, from Manchester and Liverpool in 5 hours and from Bristol in 7 hours.

Banks.—*National Provincial, London City and Midland, London and Provincial, Lloyds.*

Bathing.—Family and separate bathing. Machines, 6d. each person, 9d. for two. Salt-water swimming baths (6d.) for ladies and gentlemen, and private baths (1s.) in Bath Street. Hot and cold sea-water baths, electric and medicated baths, Turkish baths, steam, vapour, Russian, and needle baths at the Hydro.

Boats.—Maximum fares fixed by the local authorities, but private bargains can be made with the boatmen. *Rowing-boats*, four persons or under, 2s. per hour.

Steam and motor launches, 1s. per person per hour. *Sailing-boats*, carrying from 32 to 40 passengers, 1s. each per hour.

Bowls.—Entrance to green from Plas Crug Avenue. Morning, afternoon or evening, 6d.; week, 2s. 6d.; month, 5s.

Cab Fares.—Carriage drawn by two horses: One mule or less, 1s. 6d.; each completed mile after the first, 9d.; for every part of a mile after the first, 6d. Carriage drawn by one horse, or two ponies, or two mules, 1s., 6d., and 4d., respectively.

Carriage drawn by one pony or mule, 9d., 4d., and 3d., respectively.

Cricket.—The Ceredigion Cricket Club organizes matches with visitors.

Distances from Large Towns.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham . . .	123	Leeds . . .	185	Nottingham . . .	156
Bradford . . .	155	Leicester . . .	159	Sheffield . . .	156
Bristol . . .	171½	Liverpool . . .	118	Shrewsbury . . .	80½
Cardiff . . .	143	London . . .	242	Swansea . . .	89
Chester . . .	103½	Manchester . . .	140	Wolverhampton . . .	110½

Distances by Rail to Places of Interest.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberdovey . . .	23	Devil's Bridge . .	12	Pontrhydygroes . .	16
Barmouth . . .	39	Dolgelley . . .	45	Rheidol Falls . . .	9
Borth	8	Llanfihangel . . .	6	Strata Florida . . .	14
Corris (for Cader Idris)	26	Machynlleth . . .	21	Towyn	27

Early Closing.—Wednesday, except in August.

Entertainments.—A band performs on the Promenade at certain hours of the day. Pierrots give morning, afternoon and evening entertainments near the Castle. Outdoor entertainments are given in the Elysian Grove. Excellent London companies give concerts, operas and dramatic performances in the Coliseum (Terrace Road). Daily entertainments are also given at the Pier Head and in the Pier Pavilion. In the town are several *Picture Palaces*.

Excursions.—Numerous coaches, chais-à-bancs, and other conveyances assemble on the Promenade morning and afternoon in the season.

Fishing.—Excellent sea fishing all the year round. The sport is fostered by the Freshwater and Sea Angling Association.

Free Library and Reading Room and Art School.—In Corporation Street, off Terrace Road. The Reading Room (10 to 9.30) is open to visitors free of charge, and books can be obtained from the Library (10 to 1 and 6 to 9) on payment of a small fee.

Golf.—There is an upland eighteen-hole course at Brynymor, east of the Town Hall or Marine Terrace. It commands fine views of the hills and the coast. The first tee is 15 minutes from the Promenade. Adjoining the first tee and the eighteenth green is a commodious club house. Entrance fee, gentlemen, 21s.; ladies, 10s. 6d. Annual subscription, the same. Visitors' green fees: Gentlemen, day, 2s.; week, 7s. 6d.; month, 20s. Ladies, 1s. 6d., 6s., 15s. Tickets of the Professional, at the Club House.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—Apartments Bureau, Cambrian Chambers.

Newspapers.—*Aberystwyth Observer*, Thursdays; *Cambrian News*, Fridays; *Montgomery County Times*, Saturdays; *Welsh Gazette*, Thursdays; *Cardigan Bay Visitor*, Tuesdays.

Places of Worship, with hours of services:—

St. Michael's, near the Castle. H.C., 8, and 1st and 3rd Sundays after matins; 11, matins; 6.30, evensong. During August and September the services are increased and the times re-arranged.

St. Mary's (Welsh) Church, Holy Trinity, not far from the station; and *Llanbadarn Old Cathedral Church*, about a mile off. English service at 11.30 on Sunday mornings; Welsh service in the evening at 6.

Calvinistic Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, Wesleyan Methodist and Baptist—Welsh services generally at 10 and 6; English services at 11 and 6.

Roman Catholic, Queen's Road; *Society of Friends*, New Street, 11 and 6.30; *Unitarians*, New Street.

Population (1911), 8,412.

Post Office.—*General Post Office* in Great Darkgate Street, the principal thoroughfare, running east to west. Branch offices in Terrace Road, Pier Street, and Northgate Street.

Tennis, Bowls and Croquet.—On the College Athletic Grounds, off Llanbadarn road,

Aberystwyth has been called the Brighton of Wales, and the name gives some indication of its character. It is the most important watering-place on Cardigan Bay and the oldest health resort on the West Welsh coast, as well as the seat of the University College of Wales and of the Welsh National Library. It owes its origin to the founding in the sixth century of a great mission station by Padarn, a British saint. In much latter days its growth was promoted by the



Photo by]

ABERYSTWYTH, FROM CONSTITUTION HILL.

[W. R. Hall,



J. T. Ede,]

THE PARADE, ABERYSTWYTH.

[Aberystwyth.

erection of a formidable castle, and by the prosperity of its port and its shipbuilding yards. With the advent of railways the shipbuilding industry was destroyed, and the port dues were reduced from thousands to hundreds of pounds. A large part of the site of the town belongs to the Corporation, and upon their freehold have been built many fine hotels, boarding-houses and private residences. The ground rents received by the Corporation amount to over £3,000 a year and this revenue is mainly expended in making the town more attractive to visitors, who arrive from all parts of the kingdom in annually increasing numbers.

Aberystwyth is charmingly situated on a crescent-shaped inlet of Cardigan Bay, which sends one arm northward for fifty miles to the Llyn Peninsula in Carnarvonshire while the other extends for an equal distance to the south-west, to Strumble Head, in Pembrokeshire. The hinterland is the mountainous region of Plynlimon, so that the town is sheltered from easterly winds and has a healthy combination of sea and mountain air. Dr. Andrew Wilson, writing in 1905, said, "Aberystwyth is placed in a 'happy valley' in truth. Sea in front and mountain and valley behind, pure air everywhere and a fair prospect all round—what more can the heart of man desire in a health resort?"

The town stands on soil of a gravelly nature. It is well sewered, and has an abundant supply of drinking water, which Dr. Franklin, the well-known analyst, has pronounced to be one of the purest in the kingdom. The water is conducted from a lake which lies on Plynlimon, about 2,000 feet above the sea.

The Climate.

Although the town is protected from cold easterly and north-easterly winds by neighbouring hills, the high ground is not near enough to be oppressive or to impede the free circulation of air. The climate is dry and bracing, and the amount of sunshine recorded is very high. The daily readings over a period of ten years show that the average yearly record of sunshine is 1,568·4 hours and that the average annual rainfall is only 27·6 inches.

Aberystwyth is one of the places in the British Isles which can fairly claim that its winter climate is quite as favourable as that of Continental health resorts. It is, indeed, far healthier and more equable than that of some of the foreign spots to which so many betake themselves. Aberystwyth

knows nothing of the mistral, the sirocco, and the dust storms experienced in the South of France, and its daily mean range of temperature (a matter of great importance to invalids) is from 7 to 9 degrees only. Aberystwyth has, in fact, the same winter temperature as Bournemouth, but with a more bracing atmosphere. The mean temperature of the sea surface off Aberystwyth is 51° . The temperature of the water does not go higher than 57° in August, or lower than 49° in December or 46° in January.

Sir Astley Cooper, the celebrated surgeon, was a frequent visitor at Aberystwyth, although in his day it was difficult of access. Sir James Clark, a Court physician, declared that "a fortnight's residence in Aberystwyth is, in many cases, equal to a month's residence in most watering-places," and that "the pure air, its bracing effects, and the extreme change often conduce to feelings of depression and extra debility for the first two or three days, but the medical profession accept this as an evidence of speedy and favourable reaction." Said Sir William Gull, "You cannot have a healthier place in England or Wales than Aberystwyth."

Another tribute to the merits of Wales in general, and of Aberystwyth in particular, was rendered by the late Sir James Murray, the lexicographer: "I confess that the beauties of Aberystwyth are exceeding great, and that the beauties of Wales are very great indeed, and Wales has advantages which are not to be found in Scotland or the English lake district, or even in Switzerland. In Scotland and Switzerland you have mountains, and in the lake district natural beauty of a high order; but Wales has the exceptional advantage of a delightful combination of sea and mountain almost within immediate reach, so that if one has a large family some members of it may like to dabble on the sands, while others may like, as I do, to ramble over moor and mountain; and it is in these things that Wales has great advantages over other resorts as a place of health and recreation. Aberystwyth is in many respects a miniature Wales. It has a magnificent sea and a magnificent hill country close at hand, and facilities for getting about. We can now get into the glorious district of the Devil's Bridge, and, with comparative ease, go from Aberystwyth to the top of Cader Idris mountain and back well within a day."

Overlooking the bay is—



J. T. Ede,]

ABERYSTWYTH, FROM THE CASTLE.

[Aberystwyth.



J. T. Ede,]

[Aberystwyth.

THE CASTLE—UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES—THE PIER
AND PAVILION.

The Promenade,

well provided with seats and gay with flower beds. The **Band-Stand** is occupied at intervals during the day by a first-class band engaged by the Corporation. Along the promenade extends, for upwards of a mile, a fine array of residences, hotels, boarding houses and lodging houses. It is terminated on the north by the Hostel for Women Students, and extends on the south past University College, and around Castle Point, to South Marine Terrace. By standing in front of the houses numbered 7 to 9, and looking past the extreme point of Constitution Hill, the pyramid-shaped summit of Snowdon may be seen, and it may be noted here that from a point on the way to Cwm Woods, past the golf course, about a mile out of the town, all the three chief mountains of Wales are visible, and portions of at least nine of the Welsh counties.

The Beach

is composed of dark sand and pebbles. It is one of the amusements of visitors to search for choice stones to be cut, polished, and mounted by local lapidaries. At the north end of the Marine Terrace are **Craiglais Rocks and Cove**, a particularly attractive spot when the tide is breaking over the reefs.

Beyond the rocks is **Clarach Bay**, having a sandy shore popular with unconventional bathers. To get to the bay, Constitution Hill has to be crossed.

To avoid being hemmed in by the sea here and at similar places along the coast, visitors should leave them quite three hours before the time of high water. Those staying later will not be able to leave until quite three hours after the time of high water.

The sea at Aberystwyth is remarkably clear and pure, and does not ebb more than a few yards.

Bathing.

The popularity of sea-bathing at Aberystwyth is attested by the large number of "machines" and tents. Apart from these there are ample facilities for a dip.

In Bath Street are **Swimming Baths** which are much appreciated by visitors who are prevented by delicate health or inclement weather from bathing in the open. Single tickets, 6d. each, 25 for 10s. *The baths are open every week-day from*

7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and an instructor is always in attendance. The gentlemen's bath is 77 feet long by 32 feet broad. The ladies' bath is slightly smaller. Water is continually pumped in from the sea, so that the water in the baths is constantly changed, while once a week the baths are emptied and thoroughly cleansed. The temperature is several degrees higher than that of the open sea. There are also private baths supplied with fresh or salt water, hot or cold (1s.). Medical baths can be obtained at the Hydro.

Boating.

A large number of pleasure boats are on hire in the bay. They are annually surveyed by the Corporation; the boatmen are licensed after examination in the management of boats, they hold their licences subject to good behaviour and obedience to the regulations, and a qualified inspector devotes the whole of his time to seeing that the regulations are observed. For charges *see* head of chapter.

Steam and motor launches ply in the bay and make occasional trips to places of interest on the coast.

Sea and River Fishing.

In the neighbourhood are numerous trout streams concerning which particulars can be obtained from the manager of the local Information Bureau, and excellent sport is afforded by sea fishing. Bass appear in the Bay about May, remaining until July, and may be taken with the Alexander fly or ground bait from the Promenade, the rocks or, best of all, from a boat. Mackerel arrive on the departure of the bass, and remain till August. Mullet are present from June to September, gurnet from May to August, and whiting from September to March. In the early summer, crabs, lobsters, and prawns may be taken in the reefs at Wallog and at the Monk's Cave.

Aberystwyth is a station of the Sea-Angling Society.

The Promenade Pier,

at the southern end of the Marine Parade, is about 700 feet long. It was originally erected in 1864. In 1896 a pavilion,

accommodating 2,000 persons, was opened. Both at the pier head and in the pavilion, near the entrance, first-class entertainments are provided during the season.

Upon the rocky promontory which forms the southern horn of the bay fronting Aberystwyth, are—

The Castle Grounds.

The ruins of the **Castle** are the property of the Corporation, and the surrounding grounds, intersected by gravel walks and well furnished with seats, form a popular lounge.

The remnants of the Castle indicate that it must have been of formidable dimensions. It is said to have been built originally by Gilbert de Strongbow in 1109. The Norman Castle was replaced by a fortress erected by Edward I, who conquered Wales in 1282. The history of the stronghold is a series of conquests, destruction, and re-habitation, of little interest to the average tourist. It appears to have been a place of some importance in the reign of Charles I, when a mint was established within its walls for the coinage of silver found in the lead mines of the district.

The hilly districts at the back of Aberystwyth were famous in pre-Stuart times for their mineral wealth, and immense fortunes were acquired by the farmers of the Royal silver-lead mines. This led to the place being called the Welsh Potosi. Three centuries ago Sir Hugh Myddelton is said to have derived a profit of £25,000 a year from the mines of Cwmsymlog; this wealth he expended in the construction of the New River, to convey water to London.

After Sir Hugh Myddelton, a celebrated royalist named Thomas Bushell obtained possession of the mines, and much of the wealth he thereby acquired was lent to Charles I. To turn the King's borrowings into current cash, a mint was formed at Aberystwyth Castle. Some of the silver and gold coins struck there are still extant; several may be seen in the University College Museum.

The Castle was held by the Royalists for some time after the death of Charles, until at last it was demolished by one of Cromwell's officers.

From its position and height the Castle rock commands a magnificent view of the whole of Cardigan Bay, and of the finest of the Welsh mountains. In clear weather the notched peak of Snowdon, which is *true* north of Aberystwyth, may be seen by looking to the left of Constitution Hill. It is 44 miles distant.

Near the Castle grounds is **St. Michael's Church**, and adjoining the churchyard is a large and imposing *Church Hall*, erected in 1914.

Between the Promenade Pier and the Castle Grounds is—

The University College of Wales.

The College, including the Museum, is open to visitors, July 1 to September 14, from 10 to 1 and 2 to 5; the rest of the year on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 3 to 5. There is an admission fee of sixpence, which goes to form a "Visitors' Scholarship."

This huge building, a conglomeration of almost every style of architecture, has a frontage of 412 feet. It was erected in the sixties of the last century at the instance of that great railway pioneer, Thomas Savin, who engineered the Cambrian line. He propounded the idea of bringing all the world to the Welsh coast by offering a week's board and lodging in fine style, free of charge, on condition that a return ticket was taken at Euston for a matter of three or four pounds. In anticipation of an enormous incursion, the erection of huge hotels was begun at Aberdovey, Borth, and Aberystwyth. After an expenditure of £80,000 upon the hotel at Aberystwyth alone, the scheme collapsed, and for a few years the great building was unoccupied.

But there were other "dreamers," who had visions of a different character, and better calculated to find early realization. Some patriotic Welshmen, in view of the lack of facilities for higher education in Wales, conceived the idea of founding a University College at Aberystwyth. A few princely donations were at once obtained, and hearty support was given to the project by all classes and creeds in the Principality. In 1870 the derelict hotel was purchased by a committee, for college purposes, for £10,000. A staff of professors having been engaged, the College was opened in 1872 with twenty-six students. From that time its history has been one of continued success. With the exception of the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London, Aberystwyth College turns out annually a larger number of graduates in art than any university college in Great Britain. Many of its alumni occupy distinguished positions. The attractiveness and healthfulness of Aberystwyth, the low fees, and the qualifications of the teaching staff, have drawn students in increasing numbers, even from England, and there are at present between four and five hundred attached to the institution, nearly half being women. For ten years the

College was maintained by the voluntary efforts of the people of Wales, and then its success induced the Government to endow it with an annual grant of £4,000. It has several other large endowments, applied chiefly to scholarships and exhibitions.

Besides the general arts and science departments, there are departments for agriculture, the law, music, and the training of elementary and secondary teachers. The men students live in registered lodgings in the town, or at the Men's Hostel. All the women students reside in the **Alexandra Hall**, a hostel specially provided for them at the north end of the Parade. It cost £30,000 and was opened in 1896 by Queen Alexandra.

The College has a fine **Library and Museum**. The cost of furnishing the former with oaken gallery and bookcases was contributed by Welshmen in the United States and Canada. The Museum has objects illustrative of the geology, natural history, and archæology of Wales.

Another feature of the College is its exceptionally fine chemical **Laboratory**, which stands on rising ground north of the station, and was formally opened by the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, in 1907. It was erected and equipped at a cost of £25,000 by the family of the late Mr. Edward Davies, of Llandinam.

The College entrance hall bears the arms of the counties of Wales, and contains statues of Lord Aberdare and the late Mr. T. E. Ellis, sometime a Liberal Whip. The fine oak ceiling was the gift of an Australian Welshman.

The great educational revival in Wales reached its culminating point by the founding of—

The University of Wales,

with the University Colleges of Aberystwyth, Bangor and Cardiff as constituents. In 1896 King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, visited Aberystwyth and was installed as Chancellor. On the same day the degree of Doctor of Music, the first degree bestowed by the University, was conferred on Queen Alexandra (then Princess of Wales). An honorary degree was also conferred on Mr. Gladstone, the function being noteworthy as the last in which he appeared in public.

The degrees and all other privileges of the University are open to women on an equal footing with men.

The Welsh National Library.

In 1907 King Edward VII granted a charter for the establishment at Aberystwyth of the Welsh National Library. Two years later the Library was opened in the Assembly Rooms, a temporary home. It soon had some 30,000 MSS. and books, including the College collection; the books bequeathed by the late Sir Lewis Morris; and the collection (valued at between £20,000 and £30,000) of Sir John Williams, Bart., by whose munificence the Library has also acquired unique Celtic MSS. which had been in the possession of the Earls of Macclesfield for centuries, and the Hengwrt Library of some 500 MSS. of priceless value. The Library is particularly rich in Bibles, Prayer Books and hymnology. Also among its many treasures are an early Chaucer MS.; the Book of Taliesin; the early collection of Welsh poetry known as the Black Book of Carmarthen; unique copies of the Welsh romances of King Arthur's Round Table, and ancient MSS. of Welsh laws, curiously illustrated.

The main object of the Library is the promotion of the study of Celtic philology and literature, but there are also departments for English and general literature.

A beautiful site in the vicinity of the town having been presented by the late Lord Rendel, President of the University College of Wales, architectural designs for the permanent home of the Library were prepared. On July 15, 1911, King George V, accompanied by Queen Mary, the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary, laid the foundation stone of the first portion of the building, estimated to cost £80,000, while £103,000 has been named as the cost of the completed structure.

At the north end of the Marine Promenade is—

Constitution Hill,

485 feet high, affording extensive views along the coast and inland.

From the hill pedestrians can take pleasant roads to Borth (6 miles); into the Clarach Valley (about 2 miles), or to Panorama Walk. The first route is described under Borth; the others on following pages.

Another place of popular resort is—

The Elysian Grove,

or Penglaise Dingle, on the main road to Borth and Machynlleth, and within ten minutes' walk of Marine Terrace. The

Lovers' Walk is a picturesque promenade among trees, skirted by a rippling stream. In the Grove are swings and see-saws for children, and concerts and pierrot performances are given. There is a pavilion for use in wet weather and for dancing. *The Grove is open week-days and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission 2d.*

SHORT WALKS FROM ABERYSTWYTH.

The walks in the vicinity of Aberystwyth are numerous and varied. A good footpath map is published locally and by its aid the walks here outlined can be much extended.

OVER CONSTITUTION HILL.

A path from the hill descends to **Clarach Bay**. By looking up the valley that runs inland from the bay, the summit of Plynlimon can be seen. Constitution Hill can be included in a circular walk of 4 miles, thus: Go over the hill to the path at the foot, and there follow a lane on the right into the Borth main road, where turn to the right, and there is a steep ascent, followed, after a space, by a descent past Cefn-hendre Hall to the top of Penglaise Road, where again turn to the right into the main road, which leads into Aberystwyth.

Northward of Constitution Hill is—

THE CLARACH VALLEY,

reached by following the path over the hill and along the top of the cliffs. In the valley stands **Llangorwen Church**, containing a lectern presented by Keble, and a stone altar for a communion table. (*Key at a new house a short distance beyond the church.*) While staying at Cwm Mansions, above the church, Keble wrote the latter part of the *Christian Year*. Cwm was the birthplace of Isaac Williams, the poet, one of the leaders of the Oxford movement.

The return to Aberystwyth may be made by the beach (*only when the tide is going down*), through the Cwm Woods, or by train from *Bow Street* station, reached by turning to the right at **Llangorwen Church**.

Another ramble that includes Constitution Hill is—

THE PANORAMA WALK.

Having passed the summit take the path on the right, which

leads into a lane and on to **Cwm Woods**, through which there is a path to Aberystwyth.

TO LLANBADARN.

Llanbadarn, an old village about a mile east of the town, has a station on the Vale of Rheidol Light Railway. Trains call at short intervals on their way to and from the Devil's Bridge. The station is on the road leading from the church towards Plas Crug.

If walking, go to the eastern end of Northgate Street. Here the roads divide, left to Borth, right to Llanbadarn. A circular excursion can be made by turning right, past Llanbadarn Church, and then following to the right the footpath that will be seen just short of the bridge over the Rheidol. The path leads to the road near Plas Crug. On reaching the road, turn left, and Aberystwyth railway station will be gained. By this return, less than a mile is added to the ramble.

Llanbadarn Church is said to have been founded by St. Padarn, a companion of St. Cadvan (*see* under Towyn). For about 200 years it gave its name to a diocese of which St. Padarn was first bishop. Later, the see was incorporated with that of St. David. The Church is almost entirely in the Early English style, but has been badly restored. There are some sculptures by Flaxman, and monuments of the Gogerddan and Nant Eos families. A flat slab in the chancel marks the grave of Lewis Morris, the Welsh antiquary and poet (died 1765).

TO BRYNYMOR AND CWM WOODS.

A circular walk of about 4 miles. From the back of the Queen's Hotel, near the northern end of Marine Terrace, follow the road running inland. In about a mile a powder store is reached. From a point just beyond there may be seen Plynlimon, Cader Idris, Snowdon, and portions of nine or ten of the twelve Welsh counties. Near the powder store is a footpath on the top of an earthen fence. This leads to the Cwm Woods. There turn to the right, follow the highway to Penglaise road, and then that to the right into the town.

Or at Cwm Woods turn left and re-enter Aberystwyth by way of Constitution Hill.



J. T. Ede,]

[Aberystwyth.

THE " GORSEDD " AT ABERYSTWYTH.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]

[Dundee.

LLANBADARN CHURCH.



Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

[Dundee.]

CWM WOODS.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

[Reigate.]

CRAIGLAIS ROCKS, ABERYSTWYTH.

Shorter circuits may be made,—

1. By taking a pathway at a wicket gate near Brynmor House and the Golf Links.
2. By taking a path on the right at the top of the hill.
3. By taking a lane on the right a little beyond the above path. It leads into Penglaise road.

TO PEN DINAS.

¶ This height (413 feet), to the south of the town, is easily distinguished by the tall column upon it. This is in the form of a cannon on end and was erected in commemoration of the Battle of Waterloo by a local landowner who was present as an officer on the field. The hill is approached by way of Bridge Street and Trefechan, across the Rheidol, on the southern side of the town. Having passed under the railway bridge, take a footpath on the right near a cottage. The view of the Rheidol and Ystwyth valleys is more extensive than that from Constitution Hill.

TO BLACKBERRY LANE.

This is a pretty walk on the south side of the town. Having crossed the Rheidol and passed under the railway bridge, turn to the right and follow the road to a bridle path on the left leading up Pen Dinas. Follow this for a few yards. Then turn to the right and proceed for about half a mile to a path on the left leading into the town, and on the right leading into the village of Penparke.

TO NANT EOS.

Nant Eos is a fine seat, about 4 miles south-east of Aberystwyth. The name means "the Nightingale's Brook." *The grounds are open only to those who obtain an order of admission at the house.* Train may be taken to *Glanrafon*, on the Devil's Bridge Railway, within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Nant Eos. If the excursion is made by road the town is left by way of Bridge Street. Having passed under the railway, bear to the left along the Penparke road to Piccadilly, and there take the middle road. At the end of about a mile turn to the left. Return by a road which will be found to the left of the house.

At the mansion is kept the *Tregaron Healing Cup*, which resembles the Holy Grail described by Tennyson in his *Idylls of the King*. It is said to have been a chalice made from the wood of the Cross, and to have come into the possession of

the Nant Eos family from Stedman, an ancestor of theirs, the descendant of a duke of Arabia, who was brought by Cœur de Lion from the Holy Land.

TO ALLT-WEN.

Allt-Wen (the white cliff) is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of the town. To reach its foot cross the river at the end of Bridge Street, and just short of the railway turn to the right, as for the stone pier. Presently cross the river by a wooden bridge, and follow the sea-bank which extends to the foot of the cliff. The walk may be shortened by taking the ferry at the harbour to the stone pier side. By either route fine views of cliffs and beach are obtained.

For the summit take the ferry from the harbour. After leaving the ferry cross the bridge over the Ystwyth and in about a third of a mile turn to the left and proceed to Llanychaiarn Church, where turn right. Shortly cross a stile on the left and follow a footpath on the left of a hedge to Pen-y-bwlch Farm. A lane on the left ascends to a gate, on the further side of which is the open hillside, up which the ascent is made to the summit of the cliff, 441 feet high.

TO THE MONK'S CAVE.

The **Monk's Cave**, known also as **Twll Twrw** and the Thunder Hole, is a cavity in the cliff about 5 miles south of Aberystwyth. "Monk's Cave" is a modern and apparently fanciful name. The alternative appellation has reference to the noise caused by the inrush of the sea when spring tides and westerly gales are coincident. The cave is most comfortably reached by boat. By land it may be reached by several routes.

1. Follow the Aberayron road for about 5 miles, then turn to the right, and proceed along a winding track that reaches the shore near the cave. The five miles of high-road are covered by the Great Western motor-bus service, reducing the walking distance to little more than a mile. The conductor should be asked to stop at the lane leading to Pentre Farm. From the farm the route goes to the left to another farm. Thence it runs for a short distance towards the sea and then lies through a gate on the left, from which it reaches a farm with the formidable name of *Mynachty-ar-graig*, meaning "the Monk's House on the Rock," and pointing to the fact that the house is on land that formed part of a grange belonging to Strata Florida Abbey. A few hundred yards



J. T. Ede,

[Aberystwyth.]

THE RHEIDOL AT DEVIL'S BRIDGE.



J. T. Ede,

[Aberystwyth.]

THE RHEIDOL FALLS.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

[Reigate,

THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE.

farther a narrow and rather steep path leads to the shore. A perpendicular rock marks the site of the cave.

2. Rail to Llanrhystyd Road ; then follow the Aberayron road to the vicinity of the fifth milestone, and proceed as above.

3. By the beach, but the way is very rough, and must not be attempted unless the tide is going down. Ordinary tides reach the entrance to the cave.

BY RAIL, MOTOR, OR COACH FROM ABERYSTWYTH.

TO THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE.

By *Rail*, half or whole day excursion. Return fare, 2s.¹

By *Motor Char-a-banc* or *Coach*, 27 miles there and back, Fare, 3s.

The most interesting and enjoyable excursion from Aberystwyth is that to Devil's Bridge and the Mynach, either by the high-road or by the—

Vale of Rheidol Light Railway,

a narrow-gauge line opened for passenger traffic in 1902, and having a length of a little under 12 miles. It was constructed to open up as many as possible of the beauties of the valley, which at all points it overlooks. The coaches—some of them open—give passengers an uninterrupted view of the Swiss-like scenery on the route. The terminus at Aberystwyth is in Smithfield Road, within two minutes' walk of the Cambrian and Great Western Station. For passengers arriving at Aberystwyth station and going on to the Bridge, there is a special exit leading to the Vale of Rheidol line.

The journey to the Devil's Bridge takes about an hour, but no passenger with an eye for the beautiful would wish it shortened by a single minute. The *left-hand* side of the railway carriages affords the better view. For two or three miles the scenery is commonplace. Then begins a series of ascents, up which the little engine puffs until it reaches a height of 700 feet. The train moves slowly enough to let every point—river, copse, rapid, and rocky fall—be seen and appreciated. As the line follows the configuration of the mountains the curves enable the traveller to see not only the way he is going, but also the way he has come. This is especially the case at **Aberffrwd** (7½ miles), where the line

¹ See footnote on p. x Introduction.

passes behind some houses and a chapel picturesquely situated on the side of the hill, and presently, having looked upon their backs, we are able to see the fronts of the same buildings. A short distance beyond, and across the valley, an excellent view is obtained of the **Stag**, formed by refuse produced by trials for lead in the mountain-side. Half a mile farther we catch sight of the **Rheidol Falls**, far below. Soon after leaving **Rhiwfron** a glimpse is gained of the Swiss-like scenery for which the Devil's Bridge is famous. The opposite hills are so thickly covered with trees that there seems scarcely space for even a footway between, though here and there in a clearing a whitewashed farmhouse stands out. Away in the distance, but seemingly below, for the line is now higher than the Bridge itself, the ch  let-like hotel peeps from the forest of pines, the valley narrows to a point, and far below the river wends its way to the sea. The panorama of valley and mountain scenery all the way up from Capel Bangor is exquisite.

Road Route. The outward route by brake or motor is along a high ridge on the south side of the Rheidol Valley. The town is left by Bridge Street, which leads across the Rheidol. When between 2 and 3 miles from the town we see the fine old church of **Llanbadarn-fawr**, on the other side of the vale. At a distance of 3 or 4 miles extensive views are gained of the Valley of the Rheidol, and on clear days of Snowdon, Cader Idris and Plynlimon Mountains, as well as of Cardigan Bay. At every mile the scenery becomes more romantic. At the seventh milestone we pass the *Henffordd Arms*, a roadside inn, the only one on the route.

The road attains, at the ninth milestone, an elevation of 970 feet, and from a spot close by there is an exceedingly fine view. After that there is little to charm until a sudden turn of the road brings in sight the wild scenery of the Devil's Bridge.

Those who make the excursion by road usually return through Ponterwyd and the enchanting Melindwr Valley.

The Devil's Bridge.

There are really three bridges, one above another. Two are modern structures, the third is of unknown origin. The most credible tradition attributes its erection to the Knights Hospitallers, who had possessions north and south of it. But the most agreeable account is that which states that old Megan Llandunach had lost her only cow, which, when found, was across the chasm. His majesty of the nether regions

offered to build a bridge on condition that he got the first living creature which crossed it, expecting, of course, that his reward would be Megan herself, in quest of the cow. The bargain was struck, and up went the bridge, whereupon the old lady drew a crust from her pocket, and, throwing it to the other side, sent her dog across after it. Then—

“The devil looked queer and scratched his right ear,
And sprang from the side of the ravine.
He exclaimed, ‘A fine hit: the Devil is bit,
For the mangy cur isn’t worth having.’”

For grandeur there is certainly nothing in Wales to compare with this spot. The rivers Rheidol and Mynach, bounding from their lofty source, have scooped out great chasms, to a depth of about 800 feet. Downward the waters still leap wildly in a series of cataracts of a height altogether of over 300 feet. The great ravine, black with age, and in many parts covered with vegetation, is an impressive sight.

To get a full view of the falls (*admission 1s.*) one has to cross the bridge from the hotel and first descend to the bottom of the ravine for a sight of the **Devil’s Punch Bowl**, a huge cavity worn in the rocks by the dashing, seething waters of the *Mynach*, which, from the pot-hole, throws itself through a narrow perpendicular slit in the solid rock, 114 feet in depth, over which the bridges have been built. After climbing to the bridge again, the visitor descends through the woods on the other side, to the actual junction of the Rheidol and the Mynach. It is a long descent by seemingly interminable steps, dubbed Jacob’s ladder, but every yard reveals a new wonder. On the right is the fine fall of the **Rheidol**, while the Mynach, or **Devil’s Bridge Falls**, are on the left. At the bottom of the glen a picturesque bridge is crossed, and then there is a long climb of many steps to the top again. On the way are platforms from which to view the distinctive features of the five or six falls that make the Mynach cascade. Altogether it takes about an hour to go down to the foot of the cascade and up again.

AROUND THE DEVIL’S BRIDGE.

Parson’s Bridge (1½ miles; motor char-à-banc, 6*d.*).—Cross the Devil’s Bridge and follow the road to **Yspytty Cynfyn**, formerly a hospice for monks on their way to Strata Florida Abbey. In the churchyard walls are Druidic stones. Take the road to the right of the church, and follow it across a field. When the ravine comes in sight, leave the road for a steep path, leading through a grove of dwarf oaks, and the stream will soon be reached. Parson’s Bridge

was built by a clergyman who did duty in a neighbouring church as well as at Ysptyty Cynfyn; hence its name. The scenery is remarkably fine. In the vicinity of the bridge is a small Druidic stone circle.

Tyncastell Roman Ruins (2 miles).—Leave station to right, pass through village and follow main road towards Aberystwyth for about a mile and a half. Then turn to the right and follow bye-road towards farm in the distance. Return journey may be made to Devil's Bridge or to Rhiwfron station ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile), the way to which is along the bye-road leading to the farm from main road.

Tynllwyn Farm ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile).—Cross Devil's Bridge and continue along main road for about a quarter of a mile. Then take first turning to the right along a narrow bye-road, from which a beautiful view of the valley towards Aberystwyth is gained. Permission can be obtained at the farm to ramble along the hills close by.

COACH DRIVE FROM THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE.

During the summer conveyances ply between Devil's Bridge and Hafod. Leaving the bridge, the road bears to the south-east and winds along a high and barren hill, with the Mynach river rolling boisterously down the glen to the left. On reaching the summit an uninterrupted view of the deep gorges and oak-covered tops of the volcanic craters of the Rheidol Valley is obtained. Before descending the other side of the hill we pass under an arch erected to commemorate the Coronation of George IV and continue our course for a mile towards the lead-mining village of Cwmystwyth. A road to the right passes through the beautiful grounds of **Hafod**, described on next page. The return journey is made through the pleasant valley of the Ystwyth.

TO THE LLYFNANT VALLEY.

The Valley can be reached from Glandyfi station (a little short of Dovey Junction), and the outing done in half a day. Day excursion tickets: To Glandyfi and back, 1s. 6d.; outward to Glandyfi and returning from Machynlleth, 1s. 9d.

The distance from Aberystwyth and back again is about 30 miles.

During the season, a coach generally runs between Glandyfi and Caerhedyn, in the Valley. Fare, 6d.

The Valley lies to the north of Aberystwyth, about a mile from Glandyfi station. It is a picture of loveliness, and is visited by many. For a blending of the rural and the romantic, woodland and water, rippling brook and brawling cataract, few finer bits of scenery can be found in Wales. For a fuller description, *see* under Machynlleth.

TO HAFOD.

Distance there and back, 32 miles. Coach fare, 3s.

Rail to Devil's Bridge, thence motor drive to Hafod and back, 3s.; 1st class rail and front seats in motor, 4s.

For the greater part of the way the road route from Aberystwyth lies along the pleasant **Ystwyth Valley**. Seven miles

from the town we come to **Crosswood**, the seat of the Earl of Lisburne, and 2 miles farther reach **Pont Llanafan**, which reminds one of the famous Pont Aberglaslyn, near Beddgelert. Thence through varied and charming scenery to **Pont Rhyd-y-Groes** (the Bridge of the Ford of the Cross), where the river runs through a deep gorge. Then we enter the Hafod estate, and after another mile of Swiss-like views are near the mansion. A mile farther is Hafod Church, containing a fine piece of sculpture by Chantrey.

Hafod owes its existence to Colonel Johnes, who bought the estate in 1783. At that time it was an almost treeless waste, a feature which the Colonel completely changed, for he planted millions of trees, which are now of luxurious growth. He also built a mansion, and made it the depository of some of the greatest treasures of literature and antiquity. With its priceless contents, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt from designs by Nash, and the new mansion, like its predecessor, was made the storehouse of priceless treasures. The present mansion is a picturesque admixture of Moorish and Italian architecture. After Colonel Johnes's death the estate was owned by the Duke of Newcastle.

Neither motors nor cycles are admitted to the grounds, but pedestrians and horse-drawn conveyances, under certain conditions, may proceed from the upper to the lower lodge. In about a mile they must follow the drive to the left of the house.

The road is reached near **Eglwys Newydd**, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Devil's Bridge. The church is of no architectural importance, but in its small graveyard are some ancient yews, and within the building is a monument by *Chantrey* in memory of Miss Johnes, who died in 1811. The east window is filled with Dutch glass of ornate design. *The key of the church may be obtained at the lodge, a short distance beyond the building.*

TO STRATA FLORIDA ABBEY.

By rail to Strata Florida station, on the Great Western Railway. Return fare, 3rd class, 1s. 6d.

From Strata Florida station take the car which goes to Pont-rhyd-fendigaid (the Bridge of the Blessed Ford), and thence to the Abbey, 3 miles from the station. Car fare to Pont-rhyd-fendigaid, 2 miles, 6d. Before starting from the station visitors should ascertain what further charge would be made for conveyance from Pont to the Abbey, a distance of a little over a mile.

Light refreshments can be obtained at the Abbey Farmhouse.

Visitors who walk to the village should turn to the right when about 100 yards from the station. In walking to the Abbey from the village, turn to the left by the smithy.

Much of the coach route is along the valley of the Ystwyth and the views it affords form the chief attraction.

The Abbey.

Admission sixpence. Keys at farmhouse adjoining.

The Abbey is supposed to have been erected about 1184, for Cistercian monks; to have been destroyed by Edward I, and, after rebuilding, by Henry IV, and to have been finally brought to an end at the Dissolution in the reign of Henry VIII. From the remnants, and from the stories told of it, the Abbey appears to have been a magnificent building. It has been described as the "Westminster Abbey of Wales," and is said to have been the burial-place of Welsh princes, including its princely founder, and of at least one celebrated bard—Dafydd ap Gwilym—who was laid to rest in 1400.

Excavations have disclosed the bases of the nave, with the north and south aisles, the monks' choir, the presbytery, the transepts with their chapels, the library, vestry and chapter house. The tile pavements are the finest to be seen in any ruined abbey in England or Wales, and the ornamentation of a Norman arch which formed the western entrance of the church is said to be unlike any other in the kingdom. A curious painting and a few relics may be seen in the farmhouse.

TO PLYNLIMON.

Rail to Devil's Bridge, motor char-à-banc thence to Steddfa Gurig, 2 miles from the summit, and back. A guide attends the party on the mountain. Inclusive charge, 4s.

Motor-cars also run between Aberystwyth and Steddfa Gurig.

There is a small licensed house at *Dyffryn Castell*, near the foot of the mountain, where homely fare may be obtained.

Plynlimon (2,469 feet) is one of the three chief mountains of Wales. Upon it rise the rivers Severn, Wye and Rheidol, and several streams of less note. Coleridge is said to have been indebted to the view from Plynlimon for the thought of: "Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink," as from the waterless summit he could see all around mountain tarn and rivulet, and below, miles away to the west, the broad expanse of Cardigan Bay. In his *Table Talk* he says:—"I took the thought of 'grinning for joy' in the 'Ancient Mariner' ('Gramercy, they for joy did grin') from poor B.'s remark to me, when we had climbed to the top of Plynlimon, and were nearly dead with thirst. We could not speak from the constriction, till we had found a little puddle under a stone.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

DERWENLAS, ON THE DOVEY RIVER.

[Reigate.]



Photos by]

(Lae, Hall and Frith.

BORTH—SUBMERGED FOREST, NEAR BORTH—THE BIRD ROCK,
NEAR TOWYN.

He said to me, ' You grinned like an idiot.' He had done the same."

The road from Aberystwyth to the mountain runs through the villages of Llanbadarn, Capel Bangor and Goginan to **Pont Erwyd** (*Gogerddan Inn*). Here there is a good waterfall on the many-looped Rheidol and the ravine is of great beauty. A road runs off southward, following the river past Yspytty Cynfyn to the Devil's Bridge.

For Plynlimon we continue eastward, the road rising gradually to an elevation of 1,358 feet at the small hamlet of **Steddfa Gurig**. Here the conveyance is left, and climbers follow a mine road for about a mile. Thence the track is indicated by a line of poles. On the summit is a cairn.

The view from Plynlimon includes nearly the whole of Wales, together with parts of Shropshire and Herefordshire.

The best descent is made by following another line of poles along the ridge down to the *Dyffryn Castell Inn*. At one point in this descent the succeeding poles are out of sight. Here a path on the left must be avoided; by going forward the next pole will soon be brought into view. The *Dyffryn Castell Inn* is the nearest licensed house to the summit, from which it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. The descent to the inn takes about 2 hours. Drivers of private carriages like their patrons to make the ascent from the inn rather than from *Steddfa Gurig*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther, but the latter is the better way. *Dyffryn Castell* is 16 miles from Aberystwyth *via* the Devil's Bridge, and 14 *via* Pont Erwyd.

TO ABERAYRON.

Thirty-two miles there and back.

By char-à-banc, 3s., or by Great Western motor-'bus. See current advertisements of the G.W.R. Co.

Aberayron, a small port and health resort 16 miles to the south of Aberystwyth, is worth visiting for the sake of the drive. For the first few miles the road is inland and completely hidden from the sea, whilst for the succeeding portion it is wholly along the coast. On the beach, about 600 yards north of the harbour, is a portion of a semicircular fort called *Castell Cadwgan*. During the summer the passage from one side of the harbour to the other can be made by means of a curious conveyance called the "carriage bach," a wooden box that runs on wheels on a rope bridge. Four persons can cross at a time (fare $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).

From Aberayron a light railway, opened in 1911, runs to **Lampeter**.

TO RHEIDOL FALLS.

By coach, 18 miles there and back. Fare, 2s.

By rail to Rheidol Falls station on the Vale of Rheidol Light Railway. Trains run frequently during the afternoon. Return fare, 1s. 6d.

The **Falls** are within five minutes walk of the station, and can be seen from it.

By road the route passes through **Llanbadarn**, and at the end of about 5 miles turns to the right, and, passing the church of **Capel Bangor**, goes for some 4 miles up the valley to **Glyn-rheidol** farm, near which are a fine fall on the Rheidol, and a cataract called **Nant Golomen Ddu** (the Brook of the Black Dove), which will be seen on the side of a mountain.

TO TAL-Y-BONT.

16 miles there and back. Coach fare, 2s.

Tal-y-Bont is a large village in a secluded and lovely situation NNE. of Aberystwyth. The road thither passes **Gogerddan Park**, the seat of Sir Edward Webly-Parry Pryse, Bart. In the neighbourhood of Tal-y-Bont are lead mines and flannel factories, and 2 miles from it is **Bedd Taliesin** (*tal-yess-in*), the reputed grave of the primary bard of King Arthur's Round Table. Visitors staying at the *Lion Hotel* Tal-y-Bont, have the privilege of fishing in preserved waters.

PANORAMA DRIVE.

Distance, 18 miles there and back. Motor-char-à-banc, 3s.; coach, 2s.

This is a half-day country drive through charming and varied scenery. The outward journey is made by way of **Nant Eos**, and goes to the vicinity of **Crosswood**, the seat of the Earl of Lisburne.

The return journey is along the Vale of Ystwyth, passing through **Llanilar** village, 7 miles from Aberystwyth, Llanilar is interesting by reason of its ancient British camp, and the Church contains a quaint oak roof, a leper window and curious chalices.

TO LLANRHYSTYD.

Half-day excursion. Distance there and back, 18 miles. Coach fare, 2s. Also by G.W.R. road motor-car.

Llanrhystyd is a small hamlet south of Aberystwyth, about half-way to Aberayron. The route traversed rises to 500 or 600 feet and commands extensive views, including Snowdon, Cader Idris, Plynlimon and the shores of Cardigan Bay. It lies amidst beautiful scenery. On the beach good prawn fishing can be had at suitable tides.

TO PEN-Y-BONT RHYDYBEDDAU.

Half-day excursion. Distance there and back, 15 miles. Fare, 2s.

The turning-point is in the midst of romantic scenery in the district of Cwmsymlog and Darren Mines, near which Sir Hugh Myddelton, the projector of London's New River scheme, amassed great wealth. The route is by way of Gogerddan and Penrhyncoch.

TO PONT LLANAFAN.

By rail to Trawscoed (Crosswood), on the Great Western Railway. Return fare, 3rd class, 1s.

From the station at **Trawscoed**, walk about 2 miles south-eastward through the Ystwyth Valley, which in this part is unsurpassed for its picturesque and charming woodlands. Return by the road to the picturesque hamlet of **Llanafan**, thence by direct road alongside Crosswood Park to the station.

ASCENT OF CADER IDRIS FROM TAL-Y-LLYN.

The rugged and picturesque mountain of Cader Idris (described in the Barmouth section) has an easier ascent from the direction of Aberystwyth, Borth and Machynlleth than from Barmouth or Dolgelley, though the latter are many miles nearer its summit as the crow flies. During the season motor-cars frequently run from Aberystwyth through Machynlleth and Corris to Tal-y-Llyn, leaving climbers at the very foot of the mountain and within $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the summit. Or a rail and motor coach excursion on the Cambrian and Corris Railways, with coach to Tal-y-Llyn, may be made at a low fare (4s. 6d.), giving ample time to ascend and descend the mountain and be back at Aberystwyth early in the evening. The whole journey from Aberystwyth to Tal-y-Llyn is through magnificent scenery. For a description of the journey on the narrow Gauge Railway, and for the ascent of the mountain from this side, see under Tal-y-Llyn in the Machynlleth excursions.

OTHER MOTOR EXCURSIONS

Some of the motor coach excursions from Aberystwyth are to places beyond the area covered by this guide. Such are the runs to the **Birmingham Water Works**, in the Elan valley and to **Llandrindod Wells**. Llandrindod Wells and the neighbouring spa of **Builth Wells** are also among the

places to which railway excursion tickets are issued. The district is described in the *Guide to Llandrindod Wells* in this series.

TO CWM EINON, "THE ARTISTS' VALLEY."

By rail to *Glandyfi* station on the Cambrian line. Return ticket, 1s. 6d. The locality is admirably adapted for picnics. Refreshments can be obtained close to the falls.

The Valley contains many picturesque "bits"; hence its English name. Among the attractions are pretty falls. The higher parts afford a charming view of the estuary of the Dovey and the surrounding district.

At *Glandyfi*, turn to the right (southward) and proceed along the main road toward *Tal-y-Bont* and *Aberystwyth*. Just beyond the 12th milestone (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from *Glandyfi*), a lane on the left leads into the Valley. A chapel stands on the right, and there is a bridge in front. Go to the bridge for a view of the **Furnace Fall**, so called because lead-smelting furnaces were formerly in its vicinity. Return to the lane, and keep to the right where the bridle paths diverge. Go on to the **Elnon Torrent**, and then follow its course for a quarter of a mile, past some cottages. Having passed some boulders, strike off to the left up the side of a hill for fifty yards, then make for a white house in the valley in front, but keep to the right when the bridle path leading to the house diverges. Follow the path for a couple of hundred yards and go to the right to a rocky chasm, the **Pool of the Raven**, where is a pretty double fall. Return to the white house (*Felincwm*), cross the river by a wooden bridge, and go across a field to a cart road on the south side of the valley. Follow this road upward for about half a mile for the sake of charming bits of scenery and fine glacier-marked rocks.

BORTH.

Bowls and Tennis.—There are public greens and courts.

Entertainments.—In the Assembly Room.

Golf.—18-hole coast course. Entrance fee for gentlemen, 21s. Annual subscription, 21s. Ladies, entrance fee, 10s. 6d.; annual subscription, 10s. 6d. Fees for visitors: Gentlemen, month 20s., week 8s., day, 2s. Ladies, 12s. 6d., 5s., 1s. 6d. In August about half as much again for all visitors. Sunday play after 2 p.m.

Hotel.—See Introduction.

Places of Worship.—*Church of England, Congregational and Methodist.*

Post Office.—Near station.

Borth is a quiet but growing village on the coast some 8 miles north of Aberystwyth by rail, and 6 by footpaths and high-road. It has a long stretch of firm sand, excellent for bathing and for children to play upon. The beach is bounded inland by a high bank of pebbles rising far above the level of the adjoining road. At the south end of the village are low cliffs which extend along the shore to Aberystwyth, and on this high ground are many new houses. Most of the older houses are built along the road leading from the station to the beach, and along the road parallel to the sea, but half the latter have their backs to the water.

There is a large hotel, which has tennis and croquet lawns. On the flat lands between Borth and Ynys-lâs (the Green Isle) is a capital 18-hole **Golf Course**. Along the beach may be seen at low tide the remains of a **Submerged Forest**, to which some point as supporting the tradition of the existence of a kingdom where now roll the waves of Cardigan Bay.

EXCURSIONS FROM BORTH.

By reason of the proximity of Borth to Aberystwyth, its visitors can conveniently join the excursions from the larger town, and there are cheap bookings from Borth station.

TO ABERYSTWYTH.

Pedestrians may reach Aberystwyth by a pleasant walk of 6 miles. Follow the road up the rising ground at the south end of the village. In 2 miles, take a path on the right leading to the coast near **Wallog**. Having reached the shore, the route is then parallel to the beach. It skirts Clarach Bay and ascends Constitution Hill. Near Wallog is one of the **Sarns**, or causeways, which give colour to the tradition respecting the submersion of an ancient kingdom.

TO ABERDOVEY.

By the sands or the road to Ynys-lâs and over the estuary by ferry. Proceed along the sands or the road in a northerly direction. When the road ceases, follow the poles planted in

the sand. In about 2 miles from Borth the shore is reached opposite Aberdovey, which by the high-road is 14 miles from Borth. A loud "halloo" will bring the ferryman across.

The sand dunes at Ynys-lâs are interesting to geologists.

TO BEDD TALIESIN (THE GRAVE OF TALIESIN).

(1) By the Uppingham School footpath (so called because the cost of construction was mainly met by the subscriptions of masters and pupils of Uppingham School, temporarily carried on in the Borth Hotel in 1876). The path crosses the railway just south of the platform and beyond the bridge bears to the right, joining a cart road leading to Pant-y-Dwn Farm. Beyond this farm, pass through a gate on the left and follow a cart track, taking care not to descend to the marsh. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles past Pant-y-Dwn Farm turn to the right for Tal-y-Bont, 4 miles east of Borth.

(2) By rail to Llanfihangel station, thence to Tal-y-Bont, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

(3) By rail to Ynys-lâs, 3 miles, thence to Taliesin village. A pleasant circular excursion is made by taking train to Llanfihangel and returning by rail from Ynys-lâs.

From **Tal-y-Bont** Taliesin's Grave is 2 miles distant. At the northern end of the village take a lane on the right, passing a chapel at the end of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. A little beyond it follow a bend of the road, and then, crossing a fence on the right, the visitor reaches a mound with a flat slab resting on three or four stones, and hard by is the reputed **Grave of Taliesin**—a narrow trough nearly six feet in length.

It should be remembered that there is also a **Bedd Taliesin** on the shore of Llyn Geirionydd, in the vicinity of Trefriw, as described in the *Guide to the Northern Section of North Wales*.

Taliesin, the "chief of the bards of the west," is said to have been found in a coracle by Elphin of the lost province, by whom he was brought up and educated in the Druidic and bardic lore of the sixth century. He is said to have been a contemporary of the British King Arthur.

TO THE CLETWR VALLEY AND TRE'RDDOL.

To **Bedd Taliesin** as above, then follow the road to Moel-y-Gaer for a short distance. Take a stile on the left, and follow the path leading past a farmhouse.

A path along the left side of the **Cletwr Valley** leads to **Tre'rddol**. The shortest way back for pedestrians is through **Llancynfelyn** to Ynys-lâs station, a distance of 3 miles.

MACHYNLLETH.

Banks.—*London & Provincial, London City & Midland, and National Provincial of England.*

Distances (Rail).—Aberystwyth, 21 miles; Aberdovey, 10 miles; Towyn, 14 miles; Barmouth, 26 miles; Dolgelley, 32 miles.

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Fishing.—*See Appendix for Anglers.*

Golf.—A nine-hole course on the Park Common, within 10 minutes of the town. Subscription: Gentlemen, 21s.; Ladies, 10s. 6d. Residents: Gentlemen, 10s. 6d.; Ladies, 5s. Monthly tickets, 5s.; weekly, 2s. 6d.; daily, 1s.

Hotels.—*See Introduction.*

Places of Worship.—*Parish Church, 11 and 6.; New Church, 10 and 6; English Presbyterian, Congregational and Wesleyan, all at 10.30 and 6.*

Population.—(1911) 1,945.

Post Office.—Near the Clock Tower in Maengwyn Street. Week-days, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sundays, 8.30 to 10 a.m.

Machynlleth (*mak-unth-leth*) is a flourishing market town with comfortable hotels and other accommodation and good fishing. It is an excellent centre, four railway routes meeting here, viz., the main line from Welshpool; the Cambrian main line from Aberystwyth; the coast line from Pwllheli, Barmouth, and Aberdovey; and the Corris line. The inhabitants mainly depend on agriculture and slate quarrying. The town is well built, and contains several edifices, including a **Clock Tower** of some architectural pretension, erected in 1873 to commemorate the coming of age of the Marquis of Londonderry. Between the station and the centre of the town is the **Old Church**, mainly in the Perpendicular style, and beyond the Clock Tower is a **New Church**, in the Early English style. **Plas Machynlleth**, Lord Herbert Vane Tempest's seat, is at the southern end of the town. Here the King and Queen were entertained in the summer of 1911.

Machynlleth is a place of some historical interest. It was here that Owen Glendower held his Parliament in 1402, and formally accepted the crown of Wales. Among the nobles and gentry who attended was Sir Dafydd Gam, a partisan of the English king. Gam came with the intention of murdering Glendower. His design was discovered, and but for the intercession of powerful friends he would have been put to death on the spot. He was mortally wounded at the Battle of Agincourt, and was knighted on the field. It will be recalled that in Shakespeare's *Henry V.* he is mentioned in "the number of our English dead," but according to another account he lingered for a few months.

An ancient building in Maengwyn Street, opposite the

entrance to Plas Machynlleth, is the traditional **Meeting Place of Glendower's Parliament**. It had been converted into three dwelling-houses and a woollen factory, and was so being used when in 1912 Mr. David Davies, M.P., renovated the structure and fitted it up as a **Public Institute**. The title deeds were then handed to the Urban District Council. Among notable objects in the Entrance Hall are an open fire-place and a table of ancient tolls and other dues payable to the Lord of the Manor. There are reading, billiard and refreshment rooms, baths, and a bowling green.

In Lewis Meredith's poem on Glandyfi, the lines

"Whilst fair Machynlleth decks thy quiet plain,
Conjoined with it shall Lawdden's name remain."

remind us that the famous Welsh bard Lawdden was a priest at Machynlleth for twenty years.

EXCURSIONS FROM MACHYNLLETH TO THE LLYFNANT VALLEY.

By coach from Machynlleth to Glas-pwll. Single fare, 2s.; return, 3s. 6d.
By rail to *Glandyfi*.

For those who make an independent excursion to the Valley the following directions may be serviceable.

The road from Machynlleth leaves the town by a lane near the lodge of Plas Machynlleth, and goes to the top of a hill. In descending, make for two or three white cottages in the distance. On reaching the **Llyfnant Valley** at the foot of the hill, take care to cross the stream. A mile farther the hamlet of **Glas-pwll** is reached, 3 miles from Machynlleth. Beyond a large house on the right there is a turn to the left. This should be taken and then in nearly half a mile there will be reached a path leading to a plank bridge. Follow the path, but do not cross the brook. In about a quarter of a mile is a bridge from which is obtained a grand view of the **Glas-pwll Cascade**.

Pistyll-y-Llyn, some 300 feet high, but with a small body of water, is about 2 miles farther. It scarcely repays the extra walk after the glories of the Llyfnant Valley.

TO PENNAL, THE HAPPY VALLEY AND TOWYN.

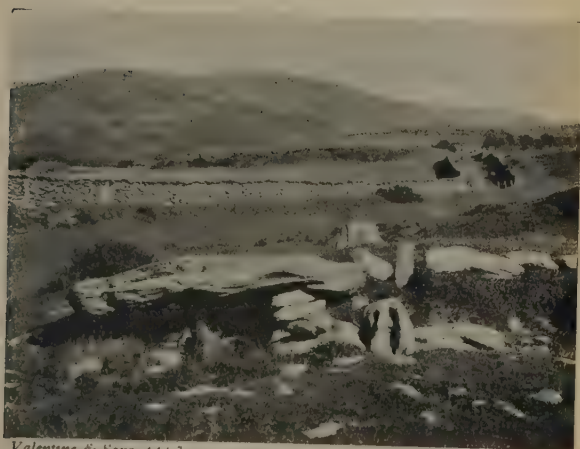
This is a pedestrian or cycle excursion. Machynlleth is left by passing under the railway. At the end of a quarter of a mile cross the *Dovey*, and at once turn to the left. During the ascent which follows, the view obtained by looking towards Machynlleth is charming. **Pennal** is 4 miles from the town.



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MACHYNLLETH.

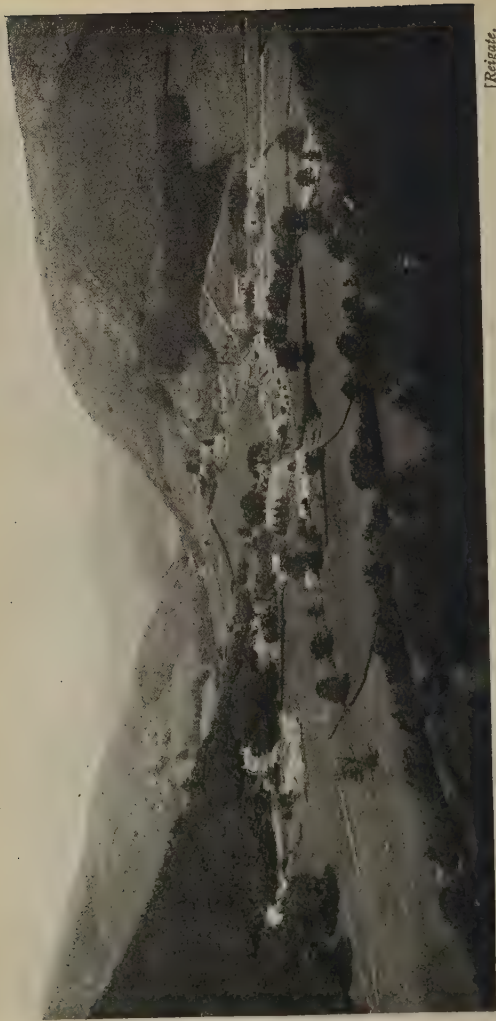
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Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,

THE GRAVE OF TALIESIN,

[Dundee,



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

THE VALE OF CORRIS.

[Reigate.

Half a mile from the village is **Cefn Caer** (Fort Ridge), which protected the passage of the Dovey and was one of the five Roman forts in North Wales. Roman coins, pottery and other vestiges of Roman occupation of the site have been discovered.

At **Cwrt**, about a mile beyond Pennal, keep to the right, and there is a stiff ascent to **Pant-yr-on**, 6 miles from Machynlleth. This has an elevation of 591 feet, and is the highest point on the route. The remainder of the route is described in the reverse direction in connection with Towyn, which is 12 miles from Machynlleth.

TO CORRIS (6 miles).

Corris is connected with Machynlleth by a tree-shaded highway along which every few steps open new vistas of loveliness, and also by the **Corris Railway**, one of the "Toy" Railways of Wales, the gauge being only $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet.

One terminus adjoins the Cambrian station at Machynlleth. the other is at Aberllefenni, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles northward. The line takes the traveller into the heart of one of the most lovely regions of Wales. The seats are placed sideways, and there are glass windows along the entire length of the carriages, so that passengers have an uninterrupted view of the magnificent scenery. It is preferable to sit on the right side going up, and the left coming down. There are seven stations on the line, two of them being beyond Corris.

Immediately after leaving Machynlleth we cross the Dovey, and passing between hedges which brush the carriage windows, arrive at **Ffridd Gate**, the station for **Llanwrin**, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, where is an Early English Church, with an ancient stained-glass window and a fine oak rood-screen.

On leaving Ffridd Gate station we quit the valley of the Dovey and enter that of the *Dulas*, passing through the beautiful **Ffridd Wood**.

Then comes **Llwyngwern** station, in the vicinity of which are the chamber of **Hwmffra Goch** and the **Gelligen Stone Chests**. The chamber is a cave which long served as a highwayman's hiding-place. It is behind a waterfall. The "chests" are excavations formed by falling water.

Beyond this station the view includes an old mill and a bit of the river fringed with trees. A little farther is another charming reach, and then comes in sight what looks like a canal, but is in reality a passage cut through the rock by the river. On the other side of the valley are slate enamelling works.

At **Esgairgeiliog** (*Anglicè*, "cock's-comb") are other slate enamelling works and a slate quarry. Just beyond

the station is **Evans's Bridge**, which spans the Dulas and affords one of the most charming views along the route.

Corris

is a village dependent upon the neighbouring slate quarries. When these are open it has a population of some two thousand, but when operations are suspended it is a deserted village. Its scenic beauty, however, is a constant possession.

Many charming walks can be had in the locality, and for those who want rest and change the village offers pleasant summer quarters.

One walk leads through the village, and then turns out of the highway to the right, over the railway and across a bridge which spans the little river. From the hill-side can be seen Cader Idris, Plynlimon, the valley of the Dovey, and the sea.

Another interesting walk can be had by going through a gate on the left, after crossing the bridge referred to above, and passing three cottages, going up the mountain path towards Galltŷrhiw. This path leads in 2 miles to Aberllefenni, the river being crossed by a bridge. The return to Corris can be made by train. **Aberllefenni** has slate quarries, which, when open, may be visited by permission. The place also contains two ancient mansions.

From Corris the tourist can easily visit Tal-y-Llyn Lake, Dolgelley, and Dinas Mawddwy.

TO TAL-Y-LLYN.

(a) **Returning *via* Towyn.** Proceed from Machynlleth to Corris by the "Toy Railway."

From Corris by motor coach to Tal-y-Llyn Lake, also from the Lake to Abergynolwyn and thence by another narrow Gauge Railway to Towyn.

(b) **Returning *via* Dolgelley.** As above to the Lake, the eastern end of which is passed, and the coach then goes on to Dolgelley *via* Bwlch Llyn-Bach Pass and Cross Foxes Inn, which is practically at the foot of Cader Idris.

(c) **Returning the same way.** Proceed from Machynlleth to Corris by "Toy Railway." From Corris by motor coach.

The **Drive from Corris** is delightful. On the right is a tumbling stream, with here and there a waterfall. On the left the hills shut in the prospect and appear to reach the sky. The banks along the high-road are covered with ferns and flowers, the beautiful beech fern being almost as common as the bracken. In $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles we reach **Tal-y-Llyn**.

Pedestrians from Corris can cut off a corner by taking the footpath opposite the station. It opens up beautiful views on the right and behind. On entering the high-road, keep to the right. After the central point of the route is passed the scenery greatly improves. Just after the lake

comes in sight, take a lane on the left steeply descending between high banks. On striking the high-road again, the lower end of Tal-y-Llyn, the site of the hotels, is to the left. (A few yards along the road to the right is a spring of drinking water.) Far up the head of the valley, on the right, may be seen the road to Dolgelley. The lake is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Corris station, the Tyn-y-Groes and Penybont Hotels, $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Tal-y-Llyn

is beautifully placed in the valley, with the rugged spurs of **Cader Idris** rising on its northern side and the romantic **Pass of Llyn Bach** opening out to the east. It is a shallow sheet, little more than a mile long by about a quarter of a mile wide, and is well stocked with salmon, sewin, trout, and eels (*see Appendix for Anglers*). The surface reflects the heights on either side, and the lake is so shut in by them that only a narrow road is left by which the hamlet of **Tal-y-Llyn** can be reached at the lower end.

At the spot where the hamlet stands the river rushes through a stone arch, on one side of which is the **Church**, an ancient edifice. At the east-end is an old painting representing the twelve Apostles. Over the door is a Welsh inscription, which may be "done into English" thus:—

"A great and holy house of refuge,
A royal choir;
In the face of God and the congregation,
Except with pure thoughts,
Man, come not hither."

Near the bridge, too, are the hotels at which the brakes put up for a time.

The road from Tal-y-Llyn to **Towyn** is described in connection with the latter place.

Pedestrians will find it a delightful walk from Tal-y-Llyn to **Abergynolwyn**, 3 miles along the valley of the *Dysynni*. On reaching Abergynolwyn, go straight through the village for nearly a mile, then bear off to the left to the station on the short "Toy" railway to Towyn.

The Ascent of Cader Idris.

Tal-y-Llyn is one of the points from which the ascent of Cader Idris is commonly made. A general description of the mountain is given in the Barmouth Section. There are two routes to the summit from Tal-y-Llyn. That usually chosen has its starting-point on the road to Abergynolwyn, about a quarter of a mile from the outlet of the lake. There take a mountain path through a wood to Rhiwrogof Farm. Pass through the farmyard, and take a path which for a

short distance follows a wall, then turns to the left and goes through a wall. Thence the route bears to the right to a ridge from which go to the right around the head of Cwm-ammarch, and so reach the summit of **Fencoe**d (2,494 feet), which overlooks **Llyn-y-Cau**, lying at the foot of **Craig-y-Cau**, a fine precipice of some 700 or 800 feet. Continue along the ridge, descending and ascending again a depression of about 100 feet, then bear to the left to join the Dolgelley track at the foot of the last steep ascent to the summit.

The alternative route is shorter and finer but steeper. The summit is but $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the starting-point, at *Dolycae*, from which there is a well-defined path alongside the torrent issuing from Llyn Cau; but before reaching that lake the climber should bear to the left along the ridge and then to the right to the summit.

THROUGH THE LLANMAWDDWY VALLEY.

The Valley is included in a circular tour by rail and motor coach. Tickets 5s. 6d., or 5s. 9d. each, are issued at half a dozen Cambrian stations, of which Machynlleth is one. The others comprise Aberystwyth and Barmouth and places between those towns.

The tourist has the choice of the direction in which he will travel. The outward journey may be made *viâ* Cemmaes Road or *viâ* Dolgelley.

Cemmaes Road is a junction $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Machynlleth. From it a branch line, 7 miles long, goes up the valley of the Dovey to **Dinas Mawddwy**, a slate-quarriers' village picturesquely set in a deep valley amid mountain, forest and river scenery. It is the resort of anglers, who as guests at the hotels may fish the Dovey and Clerfion for salmon, sewin and trout.

Y Cytir, Pont-y-clerfion and the summit of Moel Dre', or Moel Dinas (1,568 feet), are good view-points in the neighbourhood. From Dinas Mawddwy Station the tour is continued by coach through **Bwlch-y-Groes**, a pass which attains an elevation of 1,178 feet, and is said to owe its name to a cross that marked the summit. From its head there is a grand view towards Dolgelley and Barmouth. As one writer has said:—"Range after range of jagged mountains appear, seemingly thrown down helter-skelter here, there and everywhere. Rugged slopes, verdant vales, and winding streams are laid out in a vast panorama at the foot of the pass. When the tide is up, the estuary of the Mawddach lends additional charm to the scenery."

In 7 miles from Dinas Mawddwy the road passes the *Cross Foxes Inn*, 615 feet above sea level, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther enters **Dolgelley**, fully described in another section.

TOWYN.

Access.—By the coast section of the Cambrian Railways, either *via* Barmouth or *via* Dovey Junction.

Banks.—*National Provincial, Lloyds and London City & Midland.*

Bathing.—At all times of the day on firm clean sand.

Boating.—On the Dysynni. Boats are on hire at the ferry, reached by a thoroughfare alongside the Church. They lie at Rhydygarnedd, on the opposite side of the river.

Bowls.—Adjoining the Promenade.

Buses.—Buses from the hotels meet all trains during the season.

Distances.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberdovey (rail or road)	4	Abergynolwyn (rail)	7	Barmouth (rail) . .	12
		Aberystwyth (rail).	26	Machynlleth (rail).	14

Early Closing Day.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—For trout and salmon in the Dysynni River and Tal-y-Llyn Lake, by holders of tickets, obtainable in the town. Free fishing in various mountain and valley streams. Fine sport is afforded by bass fishing among the rocks at the mouth of the Dysynni and (at night) near the railway bridge over the river. Prawns, shrimps and crabs can be caught along the seashore beyond Tonfanau.

Golf.—A sporting 18-hole course over some 150 acres of seaside turf. On the links is a Club-house with a ladies' room. Visitors: gentlemen, day, 2s.; week, 7s. 6d.; two weeks, 12s. 6d.; three weeks, 17s. 6d.; month, 21s. Ladies, about half fees.

Hotels.—*See* Introduction.

Inquiries may be addressed to the Clerk of the Council, Council Office, Towyn.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. Cadvan's Church—11 and 7.30.

Baptist—10.30 and 6.

Presbyterian—10.30 and 6.

Wesleyan—11 and 6.30.

Population (1911), 3,929.

Post Office.—Cambrian Square, in centre of town. Open on week-days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8.30 to 10 a.m.

Tennis.—Courts in the Pier Road, on the way to the beach, and adjoining the Promenade.

TOWYN is one of the many rising watering-places on the Welsh coast, and there is not a competitor which may look forward with greater confidence to the future. It was an important place as far back as the sixth century, at which period it was the scene of the labours of Cadvan, one of the Three Blessed Visitors (from Brittany) to the Isle of Britain. He founded a church on the site occupied by the present—

Parish Church,

one of the most interesting of Welsh ecclesiastical buildings. It is cruciform in plan, and has a massive central tower. The nave, aisles, clerestory, and north transept are Norman work; the north wall of the chancel is Early English; the rest of the chancel, the south transept and the tower are reproductions of the original work.

The most famous monument is **St. Cadvan's Stone**, formerly believed to have been a portion of the tomb of the founder of the church. The stone is undoubtedly from a tomb of great antiquity, although whose grave it covered is unknown, the only part of the inscription that can now be deciphered with certainty being the equivalent of "the body of Cyngen." Other monuments in the church are the fourteenth century effigy of an armoured knight, one Griffith Adda of Dolgoch and Ynys-y-Maengwyn, who lived in the reign of Edward III, and the effigy of a priest of the same period, remarkable on account of the *amice* being worn on the head as a hood, instead of being folded about the neck.

Other public buildings are the **Assembly Hall**, with accommodation for 800 persons, a fine **Market Hall**, erected in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, and a **County Intermediate School** for boys and girls. A large proportion of the scholars are boarders, and among them are many English boys.

By the munificence of the late Mr. R. J. Roberts, a chemist of Towyn, the town is in possession of the Dolgoch Estate, on which are the Dolgoch Waterfalls, referred to later. A portion of the estate is laid out as a pleasure resort, the expense of its upkeep and improvement being defrayed by the rent of the arable part. From Dolgoch Towyn obtains an abundant supply of pure spring water, which analysts have certified to "approach very closely to the nature of distilled water," and have ranked "side by side with the waters of Loch Katrine and Thirlmere."

Old Towyn lies to the east of the railway, midway between the sea and the hills, which are about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the shore. It has apartment houses, but nearer the sea are residences specially erected for the accommodation of visitors. They include an imposing row upon the Marine Parade.

Towyn has all the essentials of a first-class seaside resort. The site is an extensive plain which is nearly surrounded by mountains, except on the west, which has the sea. There

is much pleasant scenery in the neighbourhood. Visitors can join the excursions from Barmouth, Dolgelley, and Machynlleth; there is a fine golf course on the marsh; bathing on the sandy beach is safe and enjoyable, and angling and boating can be had on the Dysynni River, which flows into the sea near Towyn. Entertainments are frequently given in the Assembly Rooms.

The Beach,

extending for some half-dozen miles, is formed of firm clean sand and patches of stones. It has a gradual slope. There are no currents, holes or quicksands, and as the water never recedes far, there is safe and pleasant bathing at all states of the tide. Sand dunes border the beach north and south of the town. Southward a walk can be taken on firm, smooth sand to Aberdovey, 4 miles, and northward one can walk by the beach to the mouth of the river Dysynni, a little over 2 miles. Near the estuary the breakers are always an attractive spectacle, and during a fresh westerly wind they are quite magnificent.

The Esplanade

was constructed by the late Mr. John Corbett, of Ynys-y-Maengwyn, and of Impney, Droitwich. It is 500 yards long, 33 yards broad, and is asphalted throughout. In the centre is a large shelter. Parallel with this esplanade is the **Marine Parade**. A short distance to the north of the main esplanade, there is another which was constructed many years ago by the developers of a building site. It almost adjoins the pavilion of the Golf Club and, like the southern promenade, commands a grand panoramic mountain view, including Cader Idris.

Sir Spencer Wells, sometime President of the Royal College of Surgeons, wrote:—

"I can confidently advise those who are in search of a delightful sea-bathing place to seek for accommodation at Towyn. The climate, the sands, and the neighbouring mountain and lake scenery, render it equally useful to invalids and children; as well as to those who simply seek for rest and quiet, and those who enjoy active exercise and mountain excursions."

J. S. Bristowe, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, wrote:—

"I have been in the habit, for the last seven or eight years, of spending my summer holidays at Towyn, with my wife and children, and hope that we may be spared to visit it many times in years to come. I know of no watering-place so suitable for a family, and which presents so many natural attractions. The magnificent sands and safe bathing render it especially suitable for children. . . . The flat upon which Towyn itself stands renders it freely accessible to all the breezes, which make it bracing and invigorating, and thoroughly healthy. We have invariably derived immense benefit from our visits."

Dr. W. M. Dobie, Hon. Physician to the Chester General Infirmary, said:—

"I never found a sea-side place which agreed better with me and my family. The beach is excellently adapted for bathing, and the air is bracing and delightful."

EXCURSIONS FROM TOWYN.

THE DYSYNNI WALK.

This walk is one of the most beautiful in the neighbourhood, and, indeed, in Wales. The river *Dysynni*, from which the walk takes its name, rises in Tal-y-Llyn lake and is fed by many rivulets from Cader Idris and the adjoining mountains. It contains salmon, sewin and trout and its estuary is a feeding-place for bass. In the winter months the stream is the haunt of large flocks of ducks and other wild fowl. At *Rhydygarnedd* is a ferry where boats can be hired. They can be taken up the river as far as the **Dysynni Bridge**, a distance of about 2 miles, and down the river to the railway bridge across the mouth of the estuary. The walk may be said to begin at this bridge as, in order to get across the river, the train should be taken to **Tonfanau**, on the northern side of the Dysynni, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Towyn. From the station follow the road to the Granite Quarries. Pass them on the left and follow the lane through a farmyard to the foot of **Beacon Hill** (500 feet). From the farmyard follow the lane for nearly a mile and then take the branch to the right. Almost immediately afterwards bear left, soon passing a large, square, modern house called *Pant*. About a hundred yards beyond it is a gate, from the vicinity of which there is a remarkably fine view. Northward is the picturesque village of—



D. S. George,]

[Corris.

TOWYN,

Towyn,



[London.

THE DYSYNNI VALLEY AND BIRD ROCK.

Photochrom Co., Ltd.,]

Llanegryn,

4 miles from Towyn. In the centre of the village is a monument to Hugh Owen, a minister ejected in 1662. The **Church**, a few hundred yards from the road, possesses a Norman font, a beautiful rood screen, supposed to have belonged to Cymmer Abbey, near Dolgelley, and some monuments of the Owens and the Wynnes of **Peniarth**, a mansion close by. The place is famed for its splendid library, which formerly included a unique collection of old Welsh manuscripts, now in the Welsh National Library at Aberystwyth. About a mile and a half in front of the spectator is **Moel Cocyn** (1,013 feet), "haycock hill," so called from its shape. To the left is the **Bird Rock**, and in the same direction but in the far distance is Cader Idris. At the foot of Moel Cocyn is the small village of **Brynerug**, where, in the burial ground of the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, is the grave of Mary Jones, whose efforts to obtain a Bible led to the formation of the British and Foreign Bible Society. Nearer still to the spectator, and between the hill and the river, is a cluster of pines on a slight mound known as **Domen Ddreiniog**, "bramble mound." It is supposed by some to have been a burial-place, but tradition avers that it was constructed for a stronghold.

Following the road down the hill we come, in half a mile, to a farmhouse called *Tal-y-bont*, where was once a manor-house in the possession of Llewelyn and subsequently of the English sovereigns. From it Llewelyn in 1275 wrote letters to the Archbishop of Canterbury and other ecclesiastics in Council in London, and twenty years later Edward I dated a charter from it. At the bottom of the hill the lane joins the main road, upon which turn to the right for Brynerug. In the centre of the village turn to the right for Towyn, 2 miles distant, or a quarter of a mile from Brynerug a lane on the left, followed for a good half mile, leads to **Rhydyronen** station on the Narrow-Gauge Railway. If the main road is followed to Towyn, there will be passed on the right, about a mile from the town, the lodge of **Ynys-y-Maengwyn**, the seat of Mr. Roger J. Corbett, the son of Towyn's benefactor. The name signifies the "isle of the white stone." The house is a Hanoverian building, with a wing of Elizabethan character on each side. The west or garden front resembles an old French château. The grounds are beautifully timbered. The total length of the excursion, including the railway journey at the beginning, is about 8 miles.

TO OWEN GLENDOWER'S CAVE.

This cave is an object of interest to **many** visitors. It is reputed to have been a hiding-place of the Welsh chieftain whose name it bears. It can be reached on foot along the shore in a northerly direction, or train can be taken to **Tonfanau**, from which the cave is about a mile distant, the entrance being where the earth cliffs terminate and the rocks begin.

BY THE TAL-Y-LLYN RAILWAY.

Towyn is the terminus of a short line of railway having a gauge of 2 feet 3 inches and known as—

The Tal-y-llyn Railway.

For excursions, including a trip over this "Toy" Railway, cheap tickets are issued from most of the Cambrian coast stations and also from Dolgelley and Machynlleth.

The line was constructed for the slate traffic, but has become an important factor in the tourist arrangements of the summer months. It runs up the valley of the *Afon Fathew* to Abergynolwyn, a village from which one of the ascents of Cader Idris may be commenced. Though only 7 miles long, the line has three intermediate stations, each affording access to objects which well repay a halt and a walk of greater or less extent. The terminus at Towyn is Pendre station, nearly a mile from the Cambrian station, but near the latter is a siding at which passengers are allowed to join the train, although they are not brought to it on the return journey. The third-class fare is a penny a mile. A time table can be had gratis on application at the manager's office on the siding, or wharf, as it is called, near the Cambrian station.

The first stopping station is at **Rhydyronen** (or Ashford), 2 miles from Towyn. In the neighbourhood are a slate quarry, the source of Towyn's excellent water supply and near the station is one of the most powerful chalybeate springs in Great Britain. It can be used on payment of 2d.

A road to the right leads up to the heights of **Trum Gelli** (1,039 feet), and **Gwydd Gwion**, and then descends to the **Happy Valley**: A road to the left leads to **Bryncrug**.

The next station is at **Brynglas** (blue hill), in the midst of very beautiful scenery, and quite near a trout stream. From the station there is an extremely pretty walk to **Dolau Gwyn**, an Elizabethan mansion. The floors, ceilings, doors and staircases are of solid oak. The fireplaces are ornamented

with coats of arms and bear the date 1628. Permission is readily given to inspect the house. The walk may be continued to Bronyffynon, and by Penypark Farm, whence, by taking a turn to the left, Rhydyronen station may be reached in about ten minutes.

The third station is at **Dolgoch** (red meadow or dale), $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Near it is a charming bit of scenery. The railway is carried along a viaduct, through the centre of which flows one of the many pretty feeders of the Dysynni. A short distance beyond the viaduct are the **Dolgoch Waterfalls** three in number. They can be viewed from a number of protected footpaths. The prospect from some of these is very fine. To reach the falls, go down the road from the station and turn up the stream.

The **Bird Rock** can also be easily visited from **Dolgoch**, being but 2 miles distant. Having descended from the station, continue along the main road until it turns sharply to the left, and there take a path from a stile on the right. The path, if followed upwards and to the right, where it forks, will lead through a farmyard and to a short lane by which the top of a hill is reached. Thence a path runs to a gate in a wall, beyond which is an ascent over stony ground to the summit of the famous rock.

The inland terminus of the line is a half-mile short of

Abergynolwyn,

a village composed mainly of the cottages of the men who work at the Bryneglwys Quarries, some distance up the hillside. (Permission to visit the quarries can be obtained from the manager.) At the station vehicles await all trains to convey passengers to **Tal-y-llyn Lake**, 3 miles along the main road on the farther side of Abergynolwyn. Near the head of the lake is the *Ty'n-y-Cornel Hotel*. The lake is fully described in connection with the circular tour from Machynlleth. The walking distance between Abergynolwyn station and Corris station on the "toy railway" running to the Cambrian line at Machynlleth is 7 miles. Conveyances run between Abergynolwyn and Corris.

Near the Bryneglwys ("Church hill") Quarries are the remains of a Roman road and of a Roman bridge commonly called **Pont Llaeron**.

Among the excursions that can be made from Abergynolwyn is a charming walk through the **Ceunant Gwllt** ("wild ravine"). Turn to the right towards the bottom of the incline seen from the

centre of the village. Thence take the road to the left, and at the top of the first hill take a path along the bank of a stream. It is flowing through the Wild Ravine.

The ravine is on the direct route to the **Quarries**, which the proprietor kindly allows to be visited. Even if a visit is not desired, the path to them should be followed for the sake of the scenery it unfolds. At the top of the ravine, cross the stream by the little bridge and follow the path to the right of the incline and the summit, a good view-point, will be reached. It is but a few minutes' walk farther to the quarries.

Abergynolwyn to Llanfihangel-y-pennant.—A pleasant walk of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Proceed from the station to the village, and there take the second road to the left. After passing through two gates, follow the path on the right to the Towyn road, and in that turn to the right. The distance, however, can be shortened by bearing to the right along a path which cuts off the bottom of the hill over which the main road climbs. The path rejoins the main road opposite a small hill upon which stand the ruins of **Castell-y-Bere**, or Bere Castle, almost buried beneath foliage. It was one of the largest and most richly ornamented castles in Wales. In it Dafydd, the brother of Llewelyn, the last of the Welsh princes, established himself against Edward I. The Castle was surrendered to the English king, but Dafydd escaped to Snowdon, and was there a fugitive until he was betrayed by some of his countrymen and went to a cruel death. **Llanfihangel** was the birthplace of Mary Jones, of Bible Society fame. She is commemorated by a monument erected near the bridge and unveiled on June 1, 1907. It stands within the ruins of the house in which she was born.

Llanfihangel to Tal-y-llyn.—There is a direct pedestrian route, 3 miles in length. It lies over a pass called **Bwlch Cedris**, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Llanfihangel.

Abergynolwyn to Machynlleth.—Seven miles. In Abergynolwyn take the road to the right. It leads to the summit of the pass. After crossing the ridge, follow a plain track which bears to the left.

Abergynolwyn is also near one of the ascents of Cader Idris, described later.

TO TAL-Y-LLYN LAKE.

(a) By road.

(b) By the Tal-y-llyn Railway, as described in the last excursion, returning the same way, or returning *via* Corris. See the Cambrian Railways Programme of Rail and Coach Excursions.

The distance from Towyn to Tal-y-Llyn by road is 10 miles. The coach route lies through the Dysynni Valley, in view of the river and the mountains. About a mile from Towyn we pass *Ynys-y-Maengwyn*.

Half a mile beyond the mansion the road runs to the right and crosses **Pont Fathew**, immediately beyond which is the little village of **Brynerug**.

We go north-west, and cross the Dysynni to **Tal-y-bont**. Less than a mile beyond we pass through **Llanegryn**, 4 miles from Towyn.

The road after skirting Peniarth Park bends to the right. In less than half a mile it turns left and runs along the valley for a couple of miles to **Pont-y-garth**, where we cross the Dysynni again. The **Bird Rock** (Craig Aderyn) rises above, and the Cader range is close on the left. Between 2 and 3 miles farther we once more cross the stream, and may see, on a hill on the left, the ruins of **Castell-y-Bere**. The rest of the route to **Tal-y-llyn Lake** (described on another page) is wild and picturesque, the river being below, and lofty mountains bordering the valley.

THROUGH THE HAPPY VALLEY.

This excursion is much in favour with pedestrians.

The Valley lies to the south of Towyn. We leave the town by the Aberdovey road and soon pass the Wireless Telegraphy Station.

Beyond a path on the right running into the Caethle woods, the road lies above a small ravine, and on the left is **Corlan Fraith**, a hill about 1,300 feet in height. It is nearly equidistant from Towyn and Aberdovey. Having passed the lead mines of Melin-llyn-pair, said to have been worked from the time of the Romans until recent years, we come to a sign marked "Route to the Panorama Walk and Aberdovey." A short distance farther is a public road to the Towyn and Aberdovey road, and then we arrive at the little church and graveyard of **Maethlon**. Beyond this is a sign marked "Track to Aberdovey," $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. A little farther is a gate on which is the name "Bryn Dinas." Here those who wish to visit the Ancient Graves—**Goidel Graves** is their description in *Archæologia Cambrensis* for April, 1910—turn to the left. It takes about half an hour to reach them and a local guide is a desirable companion. Continuing for half a mile farther, we come to a track on the right leading up the hills to **Llyn Barfog**, on the banks of which, an old story says, fairies used to take the air at eventide together with their dogs and kine. On one occasion a farmer captured a cow whose progeny became famous throughout the land for their flesh, milk, and butter. At length the cow was taken to the butcher, and the farmer and his neighbours gathered round to see the slaughter of so fine a beast. But the fatal blow was never given, for when the butcher raised his hand to strike, a piercing cry drew every eye to one of the crags above Llyn Barfog, where a green-clad dame stood with uplifted arms and with a voice of thunder called—

"Come, yellow Anvil, stray horns,
Speckled one of the lake, and the hornless Dodin,
Arise, come home."

At once the mystic cow and all her progeny fled at their topmost speed to the lake, into which the mortified farmer, who followed in pursuit, saw them descend.

On returning from the lake, by taking a sign-marked path on the left and then one on the right we come to a stone called **Carn March Arthur** (the Hoof of Arthur's steed). On it are marks said to have been made by the hoof of King Arthur's horse when he jumped across the estuary of the Dovey.

Once more following the mainroad there is a steep ascent to **Pant-yr-On** (591 feet), which commands a magnificent view of the valley. Continuing, we arrive at **Cwrt Pennal**, about 8 miles from Towyn.

At Cwrt Pennal the road through the Valley meets a road that comes up from Towyn and Aberdovey. Following this to the junction of the road, in a couple of miles we are alongside the railway and the Dovey. The road (shaded by trees for the greater part of the way), the railway and the river continue together to **Aberdovey**. From that town road and railway are close companions for about 3 miles. Then we reach once more the entrance to the Happy Valley, and another mile brings us to Towyn.

About a mile farther east is the village of **Pennal**, described in connection with **Machynlleth**.

TO CRAIG ADERYN (BIRD ROCK).

The **Bird Rock** is appropriately named, for it is the resort of multitudes of birds—the hawk and the cormorant especially. Two of its sides are precipitous, but it may be climbed on the others; the summit commands a glorious view, and the remains of an old-world fortress can be traced.

It may be reached:—

- (a) By the Tal-y-llyn Railway to Dolgoch.
- (b) By the coach road, by which it is 7 miles from Towyn.
- (c) By the coach road as far as Brynecrug, there turning off to the right, and going past Brynecrug Church. This saves a couple of miles.
- (d) By boat, which can be taken up the river Dysynni almost to the base of the rock.

ASCENT OF CADER IDRIS.

From Abergynolwyn (a terminus of the Towyn "Toy" Railway) there is a choice of the following routes:—

(1) The most gradual ascent, but perhaps the least interesting. From Abergynolwyn take the road to Llanfihangel, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles (Llanfihangel-y-Pennant, to distinguish it from the Llanfihangel between Borth and Aberystwyth) through the village of **Abergynolwyn**.

In **Llanfihangel** follow a lane which passes to the right of the church, and at the end of half a mile crosses a

stream. Then turn to the right, and follow a tree-shaded cart-track to *Gwastadfryn Farm*, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Llan-fihangel and $4\frac{1}{4}$ from the summit of Cader. At the farm refreshments can be obtained. From the farm the route lies at a short distance to the left of the stream, until just past *Hafod-y-Gwastadfryn Farm* it crosses the water, follows a stone wall towards the east, and then goes northward to the stone posts mentioned in the ascent from Barmouth.

(2) **The Maesypany Route.** From Abergynolwyn follow the road which leads to the Tal-y-llyn Lake. It passes *Maesypany Farm*. At the top of a hill half a mile short of the lake, take a path on the left up the mountain-side. The summit can be reached in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

(3) **The Dolycae Ascent.** This is the shortest and finest, but the steepest, ascent of Cader on its southern side. From Abergynolwyn proceed to the lake and follow the road on the right-hand side to the far end of the water. Thence the ascent is made past the mansion of *Dolycae*, as described in connection^a with Machynlleth.

Conveyances to and from the lake are procurable at Abergynolwyn station during the season, thus lessening the walking distance.

Cader Idris is described in the Barmouth Section.

LLWYNGWRIL.

Llwyngwril is a small village on the coast northward of Towyn, from which it is distant about 7 miles by rail and 8 by road. It has its full quota of summer visitors, being attractive to those in search of a quiet seaside place with easy access to a town. The air is bracing. The beach, about half a mile from the village, is bordered by fine cliffs, and is composed of patches of firm sand and rocks. Upon the former there is safe and pleasant bathing and in the pools among the rocks prawns and shrimps may be caught at low tide.

Running through the parish is a small trout stream, in which fishing is free, with the exception of the nominal charge for a rod licence. The neighbouring hills offer pleasant walks, with wide views.

The parish is the site of a *Clergy House of Rest*, founded by an octogenarian Rector who died in 1910, after half a century's work in the place.

Near the village is a burial-ground in which a colony of Quakers, having fled to Llwyngwril from persecution in England, interred their dead, until the survivors left the district with Penn to seek a home and religious freedom in the New World.

The accommodation for visitors is mainly afforded by a small inn (*Garthangharad Arms*) and several lodging houses. Occasionally a furnished house can be hired. Inquiries may be addressed to the Station Master.

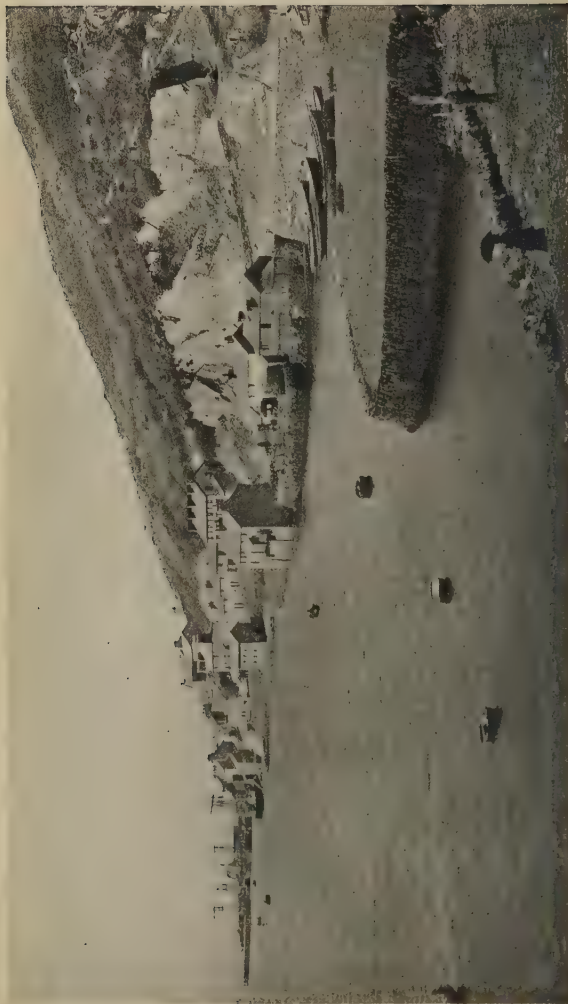
By a walk of about 3 miles over the hills **Llanegryn Church** is reached, and 2 miles along the Towyn road is **Llangelynin Church**, where may be seen one of the horse biers that in olden time were in use in the mountainous districts of the Principality.



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TAL-Y-LLYN.

[Reigate.



J. MacIardy,]

ABERDOVEY.

[Oswestry.]

ABERDOVEY.

Access.—By the coast section of the Cambrian Railways, either *via* Barmouth or *via* Dovey Junction.

Banks.—*National Provincial and London & Provincial.*

Bathing.—Machines, 3d., children, 2d. Mixed bathing is allowed.

Boating.—2s. the first hour, 1s. each subsequent hour, including boatman.

Bowls.—On the Recreation Ground near the station, 2d. each per game.

'Bus.—A 'bus meets all trains.

Croquet.—On the Recreation Ground near the station.

Distances.—		MILES.	MILES.	MILES.
Aberystwyth . . .	22	Arthur's Horse's Hoof 3	Llyfnant Valley and	
Barmouth . . .	16	Happy Valley . . .	Falls . . .	3
Machynlleth . . .	10	Panorama Walk . . .	Clettwr Valley . . .	3
Towyn	4	Bearded Lake & Echo 3½		

Entertainments, etc.—In the Assembly Rooms near the station.

Fishing.—Sea fishing. See appendix for Anglers.

Golf.—Close to the village is an excellent sporting course of 5,844 yards. It has 18 holes, with a good Club-house. Entrance fee, gentlemen, 21s. Annual subscription, 21s. Entrance fee and subscription for ladies, each 10s. 6d. Visitors, 2s. 6d. per day; 10s. per week; 30s. per month. (Except a fortnight at Easter and Whitsuntide and during July, August and September, when the gentlemen's green fees are 3s. 6d. a day, 15s. a week and 40s. a month.) Ladies and boys under 15 years of age, 2s. per day; 10s. per week; 21s. per month. Lockers: 1s. per week; 5s. per annum.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—Address the Clerk of the Council, Council Offices, Towyn.

News Room and Library.—Visitors, 6d. per week; 1s. per month. There are facilities for chess, draughts, and bagatelle.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. Peter's Church, 8, every Sunday, and after Matins on 1st Sunday (H.C.), 11 and 7; *Presbyterian and Wesleyan*, 11, and 6.

Tennis.—On the Recreation Ground near the station. 3d. each per hour, or 1s. per day.

ABERDOVEY is a small port and pleasant watering-place, situated, as its name indicates, at the mouth of the Dovey. It is on the north or Merionethshire bank and follows the curvature of the shore. The houses, for the most part, are built in terraces on a hill overlooking the estuary. The town faces south, and the high hills behind completely screen it from north-east, north, and north-west winds, so that it enjoys a mild temperature even in winter, as is attested by the myrtles growing in the open. The town is much frequented during the summer, and is highly esteemed as a winter residence for invalids.

Along the sea-wall is a promenade furnished with seats. There is a long beach of firm sand, affording safe and pleasant bathing, and in the estuary visitors can have as much boating

and free fishing as they please. Aberdovey also offers its visitors excellent fishing for salmon and trout, abundance of wild fowl and rough shooting and good golf links.

Motor launches ply on the Dovey and take visitors along and across the estuary, landing them at the nearest points of access to the Llyfnant Valley, Furnace Valley, and Clettwr Valley, all noted for their beauty.

The estuary forms a safe haven, to which come ships from Norway, France and Belgium, but chiefly from the northern ports, as the principal imports are railway sleepers and sawn timber. It is conveniently situated for trade with the southern districts of Ireland, being immediately opposite Rosslare Harbour, from which it is distant about 96 miles. The coming and going of yachts and fishing boats add to the attractiveness of the shore.

The Church is a neat modern building above the line of houses on the front, but the "Bells of Aberdovey" exist only in a song from Dibdin's forgotten opera, *Liberty Hall*—

"Do Salmons love a lucid Stream,
Do thirsty Sheep love fountains,
Do Druids love a doleful theme,
Or Goats the craggy Mountains?
If it be true these things are so,
As truey she's my Lovey
And os wit I yng carrie i,
Os wit I yng carrie i,
Rwi fy dwyn dy garrie di,
As ein dai tre pewdar pimp chweck,
Go the Bells of Aberdovey."

The hills locally known as the **Cefn Rhos**, which rise behind the town, are covered with gorse and heather. They are easily climbed and afford a grand prospect of the sea, of wild mountains and of the lovely Happy Valley.

WALKS AND EXCURSIONS FROM ABERDOVEY.

The hills above Aberdovey are known as the Cefn Rhos. They command extensive and charming views, and are a never-failing source of pleasure to visitors who enjoy walking. As they can be reached by various routes, an agreeable variety can be given to rambles upon them by using first one and then another of the paths up and down. The church can be made the starting-point for three walks that visitors who claim to be at least fair pedestrians are expected to take, a lane on the left of the building being on the route to the Happy Valley, Bearded Lake and Panorama Walk. The

Tal-y-Llyn Railway at Towyn is only 4 miles away, and at a small extra cost the coach excursions from Barmouth can be joined.

TO THE HAPPY VALLEY.

As the Happy Valley lies between Towyn and Aberdovey it is largely visited from both places. From Aberdovey follow the narrow lane on the left of the Church, and, turning first to the right and then to the left, the Bryndovey road is reached. Go along this past two or three farmhouses to a road on the right leading down the hill. Following this the middle of the valley is reached, near the small chapel and graveyard of **Maethlon**. The distance is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The Happy Valley can also be reached *via* the Panorama Walk and the Bearded Lake as below.

TO CORLAN FRAITH.

This is a height to the north-west of the Happy Valley. The posts and wires upon its summit (1,332 feet) make identification easy. On a fine clear day it commands an extensive view which fully repays the ascent. This is made by following the road to the right of the chapel in the Happy Valley and then the mountain road which branches off before the farmhouse called **Erwfaethlon** is reached.

TO THE BEARDED LAKE.

"Bearded Lake" is the English equivalent of **Llyn Barfog**. Under its Welsh designation the sheet of water is noticed in the excursions from Towyn. In explanation of its singular name, it has been suggested by Sir John Rhys, in *Celtic Folk-lore*, that the original appellation was **Llyn-y-Barfog**, the Bearded One's Lake, in reference to some such hairy individual as figures in various lake legends.

Proceed to the Bryndovey road as above until **Erw** farmhouse is passed, and then take a road on the right. It leads over the top of the range. When the road becomes somewhat indistinct, make for the farther of the two gates on the edge of the hill, and continue until **Bwlch Cottage** is reached. There turn to the right and follow a stone wall until it comes to an angle. Here is the stone called **Carn March Arthur**, the Hoof of Arthur's Horse. Thence the road descends, and, turning to the left, joins the road leading to the Bearded Lake.

Having arrived at the lake, pass through a gate on the right and the **Echo Stone** is soon reached. If the tourist cares to shout across the bog to a precipitous rock on the opposite side, the echo will respond.

An alternative route is *via* the Panorama Walk, as indicated by sign-boards. Starting as before from the church, and

after turning first to the right and then to the left and making the stiff ascent which follows, we come to a sign pointing out the nearest way to the Happy Valley, and another directing to the right for the Panorama Walk and the Bearded Lake. Following the path indicated, we are led to the left of a house and over the left side of the hill. Then our course is parallel with the Happy Valley, of which we have a fine view. On reaching a house called Bwlch, we ascend to the right and presently reach the stone called **Carn March Arthur**. A short distance farther we turn to the left and then soon arrive at the lake. From the lake a track runs down into the Happy Valley. By this route Towyn is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the lake.

Returning towards Aberdovey as far as the first sign-post, we can there make our excursion circular by descending through the defile of Tal-for-graig to the Machynlleth road. The distance to Aberdovey by this route is about 4 miles, and it is the same by the outward route.

TO PENNAL.

A pleasant walk of 6 miles, on the road to Machynlleth. The latter place is 4 miles farther, and from it the train can be taken to Aberdovey. At **Pennal** are the ruins of **Cefn Caer**, a Roman fortress.

TO BORTH.

Borth is on the coast to the south of the estuary, and is described in the Aberystwyth section. It can be reached from Aberdovey by taking the ferry across the Dovey estuary and thence walking across firm sand, the route being indicated by posts. On the sands at the ferry head opposite Aberdovey there is a refuge for travellers who may chance to be overtaken by the water, but the trip should be carefully timed with regard to tide, about which the ferryman should be consulted. Shells in great variety abound on the sands.

TO THE LLYFNANT VALLEY.

This delightful tract, a little south of the Dovey, is described in the Aberystwyth section. From Aberdovey take the train or a boat to Glandovey (or Glandyfi), and then walk along the main road towards Machynlleth. A little more than half a mile from Glandovey a road goes off on the right up the Valley and through the hamlet of Glaspwll.

BARMOUTH, HARLECH AND DOLGELLEY.

Approaches.

BARMOUTH, Fairbourne and Harlech are on the coast; Dolgelley a few miles inland. The approaches are :—

(a) By *Great Western*, which runs *viâ* Ruabon and the Valley of the Dee and joins the Cambrian line at Dolgelley,

(b) By *Great Western viâ* Festiniog to Blaenau Festiniog, and thence by the Festiniog Railway to Minffordd, on the Cambrian line, north of Harlech.

(c) By *London and North-Western viâ* Bettws-y-Coed to Blaenau Festiniog, thence as in (b).

(d) By *London and North-Western, viâ* Carnarvon, joining the Cambrian line at Afon Wen, near the western extremity of the coast line.

(e) By *London and North-Western viâ* Crewe, Whitchurch and Dovey Junction.

(f) By *London and North-Western* or *Great Western viâ* Welshpool and Dovey Junction.

(g) From Carmarthen by the *Great Western viâ* Aberystwyth, or by the *London and North-Western viâ* Builth Road.

(h) By the *Midland Railway viâ* Hereford and Three Cocks Junction.

BARMOUTH.

Owing to conditions brought about by the War, the following details are liable to alteration.

Banks.—*London City & Midland, National Provincial* and *Metropolitan Bank of England and Wales*, High Street.

Bathing.—Excellent. Mixed bathing is allowed. On payment of a nominal fee private tents may be erected.

Boating.—Rowing boats, canoes, and sailing boats for hire. The usual charge is from 1s. to 2s. per hour, including man. It is best to make a bargain beforehand.

Bowls.—On the Recreation Ground.

Carriage Fares.—The usual charge for a carriage and one horse is 1s. per mile, or 5s. per hour for the first hour, and 2s. 6d. per hour afterwards.

Distances from Large Towns.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Birmingham	123	London (Padding-		Manchester	112½
Chester	72½	ton)	252	Shrewsbury	80½
Liverpool	88½	London (Euston)	243½		

Distances by Rail to Places of Interest.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberdovey	16	Carmarvon	47	Llangollen	47
Aberystwyth . . .	38	Criccieth	24	Machynlleth . . .	26
Bala	28	Dolgelley	10	Pwllheli	32
Blaenau Festiniog .	31	Harlech	11	Towyn	12

Drives.—Chairs-a-bancs and coaches run daily to places of interest.

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Entertainments.—In the Pavilion and Assembly Rooms, and twice daily on the beach.

Fishing.—Sea-fishing for codling, pollock, bass, plaice, flounder, dabs, from boats at anchor in the tideway, from May to October. Bass from boats from near the bar to the bridge, from the latter part of May to August. Pollock inside the bar and in the bay, from the latter part of May to August. Mackerel, June to October. Along the coast from Fairbourne to Llyngwrl, lobsters and prawns in the pools at low tide. There are restrictions as to the size. Fresh-water fishing for salmon and trout in the Mawddach.

Golf.—There are links within easy reach at Fairbourne, Dyffryn, Harlech, and Dolgelley (*see* under those heads).

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See* Introduction.

Inquiries.—Address to the Hon. Sec., Improvement Association, Barmouth. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Libraries.—Public Library, near the Station, with reading room, open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and billiard room, open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Visitors can use the rooms and the lending library for a small payment and for a nominal sum can inspect the *Frances Power Cobbe Library* any afternoon. There are subscription libraries in connection with the principal booksellers, and the library of the Caersalem Sunday School (over 1,000 volumes).

Motor Launches to Penmaenpool and back. Also trips in the bay.

Newspaper.—*Barmouth Advertiser*, Thursdays, *id.*

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays—

Llanaber Parish Church (1½ miles)—11.15 and 3.30 (in summer).

St. John's—8, 11, and 6.30.

St. David's (Chapel-of-Ease)—Welsh services only.

Christ Church (English Presbyterian)—11 and 6.30.

Wesleyan—(English during summer months only) 11 and 6.30.

Congregational—11 and 6.30.

Baptist—(English during summer months only) 11 and 7.

Roman Catholic—8, 10.30, and 6.30.

Population.—(1911) 2,106.

Post Offices.—*Head Office*, King Edward Street.

Sub-Offices in Church Street and Llanaber (closed on Sundays).

Rail and Coach Excursions.—¹ Rail and coach excursions from Barmouth (and from most of the other stations in the district) are arranged by the Cambrian Railways Co.

Recreation Ground.—Adjoining the seashore, north of the Marine Parade, for bowls, cricket, tennis, hockey, etc.

This popular watering-place, sometimes called from its appearance when viewed from the sea the "Gibraltar of Wales," is situated on Cardigan Bay, at the mouth of the *Mawddach*. Hence its original name, *Abermawddach*, corrupted into *Abermo*, thence into *Bermo*, which, in its turn, has been anglicized as the familiar Barmouth.

In bygone days Barmouth was an important port, the vessels of which found their way to Spain, France, the Mediterranean, and other parts of the Continent, and, as will be remembered, it figures in history in connection with the invasion of England by Henry of Richmond, who, vanquishing Richard III at Bosworth, became Henry VII, the founder of the Tudor dynasty. On the quay stands a house

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.

called *Ty Gwyn yn Bermo* (the White House in Barmouth), said to have been built by one of the Vaughans of Cors-y-gedol for the use of the young Earl of Richmond and his friends while awaiting their opportunity to attack King Richard. The house has been modernized, but it still has its ancient doorway.

Viewed from a distance the town presents a very picturesque appearance. Closely approaching the sea, and parallel with the shore, is a range of steep hills, on the slopes of which stand many of the older houses.

The chief charm of Barmouth is the beauty of the scenery in its immediate vicinity. The late Miss Hearn, widely known as Marianne Farningham wrote :—

“Barmouth, is to my mind, the most lovely place in England, Ireland, Scotland, or Wales. It has been my good fortune to visit almost every spot in our country that has won any fame for beauty, and I know of no other that so perfectly combines everything—rock, river, wood, mountain, and sea—as Barmouth does. Lynton comes next, I think ; but Devonshire, though very charming—and Exmoor is exceedingly fine—lacks the grand mountain scenery of Wales. Our English lakes are very fine. I once spent nearly two months at Grasmere, and explored the neighbourhood with great delight ; but the lakes are not the sea, and altogether I love Barmouth more than any other place—even with Killarney and Callander and Oban in my mind.”

Miss Frances Power Cobbe, the writer of *Italics* and other books, who resided near Dolgelley for many years up to her death, said of the district :—

“Photographs cannot convey any idea of the beauty of the rivers, woods, and mountains all round. No spot in the kingdom, I think, not even the lovely Lake country, unites so many elements of beauty as this part of Wales. The deep, true purple heather and the emerald green fern robe these Welsh mountains in summer in regal splendour of colouring, and in autumn wrap them in rich russet brown cloaks. Down between every chain and ridge rush brooks always bright and clear, and in many places leaping into lovely waterfalls. As to trees and shrubs, never was there a country in which there were to be found growing freely and almost wild so many kinds of trees, creating, of course, the loveliest wood scenery and variety of colouring.”

The Climate

is exceptionally favourable throughout the year, although the best months are April, May, and June, when the tempera-

ture ranges between 50° and 70° Fahr. The air has a most beneficial effect on the nervous system. Convincing proof of its salubrity is afforded by the fact that in a recent year the rate of mortality was only eight per thousand.

Although Barmouth receives most of its visitors during the summer, it is one of the finest winter resorts in the country. The late Sir William Roberts, M.D., declared that "as a winter resort Barmouth takes the lead of all places in the United Kingdom, and will compare favourably with any part of the South of France. For years," he said, "I have been sending my patients to Barmouth, with excellent results."

To those seeking a mild retreat in winter, the following comparison between the mean winter temperature of Barmouth, Kew, and the South of France will be of interest:—

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Barmouth.	58·4	56·2	45·1
Kew Observatory	55·1	40·2	40
Pau.	60·5	57·2	45·6

The plants that flourish out of doors during the winter proclaim the mildness of the weather. Among those which will not thrive in a cold atmosphere, but grow to perfection in Barmouth, may be mentioned the aloe, fuchsia, veronica, eucalyptus globulus, and the myrtle. Being sheltered from north and east winds by the neighbouring mountains, and exposed only to the soft breezes of the south and west, Barmouth is well adapted as a place of residence for those having chest affections.

Both the botanist and the naturalist will find the neighbourhood of Barmouth a rich hunting-ground. The geologist will find much that is interesting in the eruptive rocks, while nowhere else in Great Britain are there such wonderful records of the glacial epoch. Glacial groovings in the solid rock were laid bare during the excavations for St. John's Church, and may still be seen by going up the steps in the wall about a hundred yards from the end of the church. The most fruitful field for fossils is between Llanaber and Llanelltyd.

Barmouth is well sewered and draws an abundance of excellent water from Ceilwart and from Bodlyn Lake, far up on the mountains north of the town.

The Beach

consists of firm, smooth sand, extending along the shore for a distance of 3 or 4 miles. It shelves gradually, is free from holes and allows of safe and pleasant bathing at any state of the tide. On the quay are **Baths** in which sea water, fresh-



[London.

BARMOUTH BRIDGE AND CADER IDRIS.

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F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

BARMOUTH.

[Reigate.

water, shower, needle, and other baths can be obtained.

The best sites near the sea are occupied by **Porkington Terrace**, which overlooks the beautiful estuary, and the **Marine Terrace**, which faces the bay, and is separated from the beach only by a carriage road and the asphalted promenade.

Near the Station stands the **Barmouth Library and News Room**, erected 1900-1. Terms of subscription may be had on application to the Librarian. The immediate cause of the erection of the building was Miss Frances Power Cobbe's bequest to the Urban Council of her valuable library of some 3,000 volumes, comprising rare editions and the autographed works of famous authors. They are open to inspection every afternoon on payment of a small fee. In addition to the apartments occupied by the books, the building contains smoke rooms, billiard room, etc. The cost of building and furnishing was defrayed by the contributions of friends and admirers of Miss Cobbe, and of the inhabitants of Barmouth generally.

Prominent among the higher buildings is—

St. John's Church,

one of the finest ecclesiastical structures in Wales (generally closed except during services). It was opened in 1892, and has accommodation for a thousand worshippers. The tower is its second. The first fell in 1893, causing much damage to the fabric. The bells are very musical, and are said to be identical in tone with those of Malvern Abbey. The principal feature of the interior is the beautiful font, which has the form of an angel holding a large shell.

Also conspicuously situated and not far from St. John's Church is the **Roman Catholic Church**, opened in 1905.

The **St. George's Cottages** are interesting to many visitors from their association with Mr. Ruskin's social experiment. They stand in the old part of Barmouth, far up on the side of the hill, and may be approached by the path at the side of the *Cors-y-Gedol Hotel*, or more directly by Gibraltar Lane, the path on the southern side of the Midland Temperance Hotel, near St. David's Church. The paths are so tortuous that it is impossible to trace them here, but the inhabitants along the route are pleased to give information. To the right of a long flight of stone steps is Rock Terrace, containing the best of the cottages. An interesting account of the little colony can be obtained locally, entitled *Ruskin's Social Experiment at Barmouth* (6d.).

No one knows Barmouth who has not climbed through the

old town to the summit of the hills, and who has not also spent some time on—

Barmouth Bridge.

Toll, 1d. each way; children pay only one way. Weekly tickets, adults 6d., children 3d. Cyclist and machine, 2d.

This structure, which spans the wide estuary of the *Mawddach*, is half a mile in length, and is of wood, except over the channel of the river. There, for over four hundred feet, it is carried by means of huge girders, supported by steel cylinders driven deep into the river bed. A part can be swung aside to allow the passage of ships. One side of the bridge carries the railway, while the other forms a pier or marine lounge, and is provided with sheltered seats.

The View when the tide is in is indescribably lovely, the water running up between the mountains to picturesque Dolgelley. Wordsworth spoke of the estuary as "sublime," and declared it might compare with the finest in Scotland.

At the Barmouth end of the Bridge is the little harbour of **Aberamffra** and here, near the toll house, is the lifeboat house. At the mouth of the estuary is **Friar's Island**, said to have been the residence of a hermit.

In the vicinity of the bridge is another good view-point. It is the small knoll called **Figle** (or Fegla) **Fawr**, passed on the way to **Barmouth Junction**, which is half a mile south of the Bridge.

WALKS FROM BARMOUTH.

On and around **Craig Abermaw** (Barmouth Hill), a number of delightful walks can be taken. The rock that overhangs the town and has Old Barmouth upon its seaward slope is **Dinas Oleu** (the Fortress of Light). It rises to a height of 870 feet. The summit has been placed under the care of the National Trust for the preservation of places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty. Several roads lead up it. One goes past St. John's Church, another by the side of the Cors-y-Gedol Hotel, and a third begins by a lane opposite St. David's church. From the summit one path runs in a northerly direction, another leads to a road that is on one of the routes to the Panorama Walk.

To the right of Dinas Oleu, as you ascend, is a cliff called **Carreg-y-gribin**, upon which visitors may freely ramble, as it has been acquired by the Urban Council for that purpose. It commands a charming view of the estuary and bay.

THE PANORAMA WALK

is one of the most popular rambles close to the town. It should be visited when the tide is in. The view is much the same as that from the Bridge, only, as it is from a higher standpoint (500 feet above the sea), the landscape is much more extensive. The visitor who is of an exploring turn of mind will find that there are various ways to the Walk. Those who need guidance may follow the high-road to the end of Porkington Terrace, half a mile south of the station, and there enter a lane running steeply uphill on the left. A small sign-post indicates the turning. At a fork at the top of the hill, keep to the right.

Several paths branch to the left off this road, and lead over the hill to Barmouth and Llanaber, forming walks which can be extended for 3 or 4 miles if desired.

Half a mile farther, turn sharply to the right, through a gap in the hills, and you soon reach the spot from which the valley of the Mawddach can be overlooked. The highest point lies a little to the right.

At the spot where the visitor steps aside to look up and down the estuary, there is on the left a refreshment room.

The return can be made by passing through the gate just beyond the refreshment room, and descending a rather rough but pleasant path through a wood. Take the first turn on the right, presently emerging on the Dolgelley and Barmouth main road, about 2 miles from the latter town.

CONCILIATION HILL

is situated at the north end of the town and worthily invites the Rambler. To reach it leave the main road by Mynach Road, on the right, near Hendre Hall. Follow this past the Rectory; turn to the right near Haulfryn, at the top of the road, and follow a mountain-path to the left. This leads along **Conciliation Hill**, which commands a bird's-eye view of the town and the whole of Cardigan Bay. On the extreme right are the Carnarvonshire coast and Bardsey Island, while on the extreme left the Cardigan and Pembrokeshire coasts can be seen. By following the path through a wicket gate and passing an outbuilding, you come to *Cellfechan Farm*, recently purchased by the Urban District Council, where refreshments can be obtained. The road immediately in front of the house on your right leads back to the town, while a public path on the left leads on to the Garn (Barmouth Hill) and the Panorama Walk.

TO LLANABER CHURCH.

This is on the Harlech road, $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Barmouth, of which it is the parish church. The walk affords splendid views over sea and land, and **Llanaber Church** itself will well repay a visit. Dedicated to St. Bodfan, it is believed to date from the 13th century. It was carefully restored in 1860. Externally it is very plain, but the interior is of great interest. The chancel has a finely decorated roof; the east window consists of a single lancet, a very uncommon feature. The chancel arch has five clustered massive columns, with peculiar capitals. In the south door is a remarkably fine arch, with mouldings and foliage. There are several interesting relics, including an antique chest, carved out of a single log of wood; two wooden collecting boxes of quaint design, dated 1756 and 1774; and a stone bearing an inscription which has been read as "Calixtus" or "Cœlextus Monedi Regi," and is supposed to refer to Calixtus (or Cœlextus), king of Mona. The stone, which is of unknown date, is said to have been discovered by Lewis Morris, the antiquary, in the sand near Barmouth. (*The key of the church is kept at a cottage adjoining the churchyard on the seaward side*).

TO CARNEDDAU HENGWM.

The formidable words above are applied to certain burial-places of Neolithic man about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Llanaber Halt. The most interesting of the sepulchral relics are two great mounds of stones. In one is a passage leading to a chamber roofed with a large flat stone. Close by is a ruined cromlech.

To reach the spot from Llanaber, follow the Harlech road for a mile, and having crossed the Egryn brook turn to the right, recross the brook and then follow a track up the hill. Its upper end is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the bridge. Having reached it, pass through a gate in a wall. Away on the left is a wall running up the mountain. At right angles to it are two others on the left. The more distant of these is about half a mile away, and the **Carneddau Hengwm** are against it.

TO DYFFRYN CROMLECHS, LLANDDWYWE CHURCH
AND CORS-Y-GEDOL LAKES.

Dyffryn is a large village with a station 5 miles from Barmouth. In the summer it is the headquarters of visitors who enjoy a quiet seaside place or are attracted by its *Golf Links*, the excellent seaside 18 hole course of the Ardudwy Club. It is 5,400 yards in length, and lies partly among sandhills.

It is a **ten minutes'** walk from the station and **fifteen minutes'** from the village. Visitors can obtain meals at the clubhouse by giving notice to the caterer on their arrival.

Annual subscription—gentlemen, £1 1s.; ladies, 10s. 6d.; juniors (under 18), 10s. 6d.; visitors' fees—monthly, gentlemen, 15s.; ladies and juniors, 10s. Weekly, gentlemen, 5s.; ladies, 3s. 6d.; day tickets, 1s. 6d. Tickets can be obtained from the professional.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile southward of Dyffryn the Harlech-Barmouth road passes **Llanddwywe Church**, of slight architectural interest, but containing curious monuments and epitaphs. Those of the Vaughans (one of the monuments designed by Inigo Jones) occupy the Cors-y-Gedol Chapel to the south of the Church. (*The key is kept by the parish clerk at Coed Coch, half a mile distant.*)

Opposite the Church is the entrance lodge of **Cors-y-Gedol**. The house is not visible from the main road, nor is it open to the public.

The approach to it is by a straight drive, nearly a mile in length and then through a beautiful avenue of limes, planted in 1734. The mansion was for centuries the seat of the Fychans (*Anglice*, Vaughans), the descendants of Osborn Wyddel, or Fitzgerald, the son of an Irish nobleman. In the 13th century he crossed over to Wales, and married the heiress of Cors-y-Gedol. The surname of Vaughan was assumed in the 15th century. The arms of the family ornament the doorway, designed by Inigo Jones. The oldest part of the mansion dates back to 1593. In 1918 it was sold on behalf of the Y.M.C.A. War Funds.

On the way to Cors-y-Gedol lakes a visit can be paid to a large cromlech named **Coytan Arthur** (Arthur's Quoit). It is said to have been thrown by King Arthur from the top of Moelfre, a neighbouring hill, certain marks upon it being the impress of his fingers. The best route to it and the lakes is from **Tal-y-Bont**, a picturesque hamlet on the river Ysgethin, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Cors-y-Gedol lodge. The view from the bridge or the path by the old smithy is charming. For the Quoit turn to the left by the side of the post office and follow first a field road and then a footpath, both running through a pretty valley. In about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles you come to *Lletty-lloegr*, a cottage in a wood. There turn to the left and you should reach the stone in about five minutes.

The stone is a little off our track to the lakes. Returning to *Lletty-lloegr* we pass it, cross a bridge (Pont Fadog), and then turn to the left for the first of the lakes, **Llyn Ird dyn**, about a mile away, at a height of over 1,000 feet. Its name, literally "the Priest's Lake," is derived from its connection with the Druids.

The isolated hill to the north of Llyn Irddyn is **Moelfre** (1,932 feet). It is 4 miles from Dyffryn Station to the summit, which can be reached with ease and commands a fine prospect. On the slopes are two cromlechs, and the summit is crowned by a cairn, said to cover the grave of an old-world warrior named Moel. According to the story, he died while ascending the mountain, and the cairn was raised over his last resting-place by his wife.

Passing to the left of Llyn Irddyn we presently come to a road, near a bridge. Continuing up stream, a half-hour's walk brings us to **Llyn Bodlyn** (Barmouth waterworks) at an elevation of 1,245 feet. Passing to the right of it, another half hour's walk is needed to reach **Llyn Dulyn**, dominated by **Crib-y-Rhiw** ("the Crest of the Ridge"), 2,228 feet high. This lake is much smaller than the other two, but commands finer scenery.

From Llyn Bodlyn a half hour's stiff climb will take one to the summit of **Diphwys** (2,462 feet).

TO FAIRBOURNE.

This may be made a short circular trip, thus:—Cross by the ferry from the quay to Penrhyn. Walk, or take tram (*fare, 2d.*) to Fairbourne station. The trams run at fairly frequent intervals. From Fairbourne train or walk to Barmouth Junction, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and re-cross the estuary by Barmouth Bridge. Fairbourne is described on a succeeding page.

TO ARTHOG.

Arthog is a hamlet on the slope of Cader Idris, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Barmouth. It may be reached by rail, by boat, or by road. It stands amid very picturesque scenery, the views of the Mawddach and of the hills around Barmouth being charming. In the vicinity are many delightful walks and waterfalls. After crossing the Bridge, pedestrians can at once go down to a road on the left forming an embankment across the sands, and from that pass to a footpath at the foot of the hill. Following the path through a wicket gate clearly indicated, the high-road is reached just by Arthog village. Pedestrians can also continue along the line for a short distance beyond the Junction, turning off through a gate on the right, and then either striking across fields on the left or going straight on to the high-road.

If the railway embankment is followed into Barmouth Junction pedestrians can walk through the Station to the road beyond. In a few yards a path on the left across the fields will be found leading to the main Arthog road.

Walks from Arthog.

To the Arthog Falls, in the grounds of the *Hotel*, a pretty ivy-clad house, charmingly situated on the hillside, half a mile from Arthog station, or about a mile from Barmouth Junction. Except in times of drought, the falls are worth a visit. Tickets to view, giving full instructions for reaching the falls, are on sale in the hotel, price 6*d*. A view of the falls can also be obtained from a cottage on the main road, a short distance in the direction of Penmaenpool. From the falls a path marked by crosses on the trees leads to an old fort, the view from which is worth seeing.

To Penmaenpool, at the head of the estuary of the Mawddach, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles by the high-road. The latter part is exceedingly delightful, the road being overhung by trees, and the boundary walls largely covered by vegetation.

To the Crogenen Lakes, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Arthog station. On getting to the high-road from the station turn to the right, and almost at once follow an uphill lane to the left marked "Road to Cader Idris"; then through the woods to a stream, on the other side of which are the scanty remains of **Llys Bradwen**, reputed to have been the residence of a Welsh chieftain of the 12th century.

The stream must be crossed, as must also a hilly field of furze and bracken, and then a track will be reached which, if followed for a short distance to the right along the wall, leads to a path which runs off on the left to the **Crogenen Lakes**, about 800 feet above the sea.

The return may be made by getting to the Upper Towyn road, a short distance to the south of the Lakes, following that to the left for a couple of miles, and then, by a lane on the left, proceeding through the delightful Abergwynant Valley to the Lower Towyn road, in which turn to the right and go on to Penmaenpool station, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. The round, from station to station, is about 8 miles.

ASCENT OF CADER IDRIS FROM BARMOUTH.

Cader Idris, the "Chair of Idris," is so called, according to tradition, from Idris, a giant whom the old bardic writings represent as being even greater in mind than in stature. He is said to have been at once poet, astronomer and philosopher, and to have had his observatory on the summit of this mountain. A chamber formed by massive rocks is shown as the observatory and a hollowed precipice between the summit and the lake is the reputed chair of the giant. The legend that whoever ventured to seek a night's repose in the chair would, on waking, be either a poet or a madman, has been rendered familiar to English readers by Mrs. Hemans' lines:—

92 ASCENT OF CADER FROM BARMOUTH

"I lay there in silence—a spirit came o'er me—
Man's tongue hath no language to speak what I saw!
Things glorious, unearthly, passed floating before me,
And my heart almost fainted with rapture and awe!
I viewed the dread beings around us that hover,
Though veiled by the mists of mortality's breath;
I called upon darkness the vision to cover,
For a strife was within me of madness and death."

Of the mountains in Wales, Cader Idris holds second place in the favour of tourists, the number who climb to its summit being inferior only to the number who ascend Snowdon. The views are generally considered to be finer than those commanded by the more popular peak.

The ascent may be made from Barmouth ($8\frac{1}{2}$ miles) or Dolgelley, or from Arthog, Towyn, or Tal-y-Llyn. Refreshments can generally be obtained at the summit.

Train to Arthog, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Distance from Arthog to the summit, about 6 miles. From the station proceed to the Dolgelley road, and from that, after a few steps to the right, ascend the steep and narrow lane referred to under the excursions from Arthog. Do not, however, cross the stream, but continue along the path to a farmhouse, and thence, with the stream still on the left, cross a couple of fields, and so gain the old Dolgelley road, or Upper Towyn road, as it is also called. There turn to the left, and proceed along the road to a farmhouse on the left, called *Hafod-y-Fach*, where pass through a gate on the opposite side of the road, and follow a path across some boggy ground and through a plantation. This path brings one to the mountain, up which follow a wall, and then, turning to the left, go as straight as possible, by a stiffish climb, to the ridge of **Tyrau-mawr** (*tirry mawr*), or Big Heaps. Then the route lies along the ridge, which has a variety of ups and downs (at the lowest point 1,700 feet above the level of the sea).

The summit of **Tyrau-mawr** is a plateau 2,167 feet in height. It lies a little to the north of the direct route to Cader, and can be reached in about an hour from Arthog. Many like to turn aside to it for the sake of the view, which is considered by some to excel that from Cader itself.

For the summit of Cader Idris, continue along the ridge of **Tyrau-mawr**, and as you descend its slopes the steep way up Cader is plainly visible. To the left may be noticed two upright stones. They stand at the junction of the routes from Arthog, Dolgelley, and Llanfihangel, and mark the beginning of the ascent to **Cyfrwy**, or the Saddle of Cader.

A little beyond, the last part of the ascent of Cader begins. It is over ground thickly strewn with stones. For the sake of having a path somewhat less rough than the direct route,



G. P. Abraham.]

CADËR IDRIS.

[Kewick.]



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LLYN-Y-GADER AND THE FOXES' PATH.



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[Reigate.]

LLANABER CHURCH.

take the track on the right. In about half a mile it passes a spring of water, a short distance below the topmost point.

The View from Cader Idris.

Pen-y-Gader, as the highest point is called, is 2,927 feet above the sea. The finest prospect is towards the north. On this side of the mountain is a precipice several hundred feet in height, with **Llyn-y-Gader** at its foot. Far beyond the Mawddach estuary and the Llawllech range is the Snowdonian range. To the north-east is the valley of the Wnion, extending from Dolgelley nearly to Bala Lake, with the Arans on the right and the Arenigs on the left, while beyond the lake is Moel Fammau, distinguished by a monument of the Jubilee of George III on its summit. Due east are the Breidden Hills, only a dozen miles short of Shrewsbury. Due south is Plynlimon, and to the south-west is the Dysynni Valley, with its noted Bird Rock.

THE ASCENT OF DIPHWYS (*diffuos*).

From **Barmouth** proceed as to the Panorama Walk. Avoid the left-hand branch of the fork at the top of the first steep ascent, but follow the lane up the valley to the *Sylfaen Farm*, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Barmouth, and distinguishable by being larger than others passed on the way. Leave the farm buildings a few yards on the left, and a pleasant and comparatively easy walk to the ridge will be found by following a broken track which goes in an oblique direction to a gateway that will be seen on the sky-line. The ridge is reached at a point nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the summit. Along it there runs a wall, to which one or two others are brought a little short of the topmost point (2,462 feet above sea-level). Immediately under Diphwys is **Llyn Bodlyn**.

From **Penmaenpool**. Train to Penmaenpool, 7 miles, thence to Diphwys, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

At Penmaenpool, cross the river by the bridge against the station (*toll, id.*). At the end of half a mile the Dolgelley and Barmouth road is reached, and thence the route is northward up a rough road through **Cwm-mynach Glen**, the stream being at first on the left. About three-quarters of a mile brings one to a tributary stream coming down on the right. After following the main stream for another mile, the track crosses to the opposite side, and, continuing, leads to the shallow, reed-covered sheet of water called **Llyn Cwm-mynach**, nearly a thousand feet above sea-level. At this little lake the track goes off westward for rather less than a mile, and ends with a short stretch towards the north-west.

By following a wall which runs northward along the

ridge from Diphwys, the pedestrian will reach the summit called **Llethr** (2,475 feet), $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant.

BY RAIL AND ROAD FROM BARMOUTH.

As a centre for drives, Barmouth has few rivals, and the scale of charges is remarkably moderate. Motor-cars and well-horsed coaches and chars-à-bancs leave the town daily during the season. They start from the High Street between 10 and 10.30, reaching Barmouth again about 6. To ensure a seat during the height of the season, it is necessary to bespeak it at least a day in advance. The booking of seats is conditional on the weather being favourable.

TO DOLGELLEY AND THE TORRENT WALK.

¹ Coach fare 3s. 6d.; box seat, 6d. extra. Rail and coach, 2s. 3d.

Many visitors take advantage of the cheap day tickets to Dolgelley and travel to that town by rail as part of their excursion to the Torrent Walk. On leaving the station, the route from the railway bridge runs into the town. There it turns to the left to cross a bridge over the Aran and then lies along the highway for a little over a mile. There it turns down a lane on the left. Just short of a bridge the Walk is entered as set out in the pages on which Dolgelley is described. From the station to the Walk is about 2 miles.

The road route from Barmouth, however, is very popular and deservedly so.

It is commonly said that there is no more charming drive in Great Britain than the drive from Barmouth to Dolgelley unless it be the drive from Dolgelley to Barmouth. The route lies along the northern side of the Mawddach estuary, and the view of hills and valleys on either hand is magnificent.

Barmouth is left by way of High Street and Porkington Terrace, and, the top of **Aberamffra Hill** being gained within a few minutes of the start, one of the many beautiful scenes which characterize the route is presented before the coach is well clear of the town, the Cader range and the estuary opening before us, forming a panorama of unrivalled loveliness. A little farther we come to **Goesfaen**, a corruption of Croesfaen (English, "Stone Cross"), once the site of a wayside cross. Having passed the second milestone, we reach **Glandwr Mill**, where a quaint bridge and a lovely valley running up towards Diphwys are objects worthy of notice.

Not a little of the charm of the route comes from the serpentine form of the road, which bends so sharply, first to the

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.

right, then to the left, then back again, that the scene is ever-changing. Just beyond Bont-ddu is a corner known as the **Fiddler's Elbow**, and eyes need not be aided by imagination to see the appropriateness of the name.

The third milestone being passed, we look out for **Caerdeon**, where Darwin lived while writing his *Descent of Man*, in the summer of 1869.

To Sir J. D. Hooker he wrote, "We have a beautiful house, with a terraced garden, and a really magnificent view of Cader, right opposite. Old Cader is a grand fellow, and shows himself off perfectly with every changing light."

Having passed ivy-covered Caerdeon, passengers begin to look for **Waterloo Hill**, an almost perpendicular height covered with firs. It apparently closes the avenue along which the coach is proceeding, is lost to sight while it is being passed, and then again delights the eyes of those who give a backward glance. The hill owes its name to its having been planted with trees about the time the battle of Waterloo was fought. Another name hereabouts reminiscent of those days is **Gallt-yr-Heddwrh**, "the Plantation of Peace," so called because the planting was done during the short peace which followed Napoleon's banishment to Elba. The trees were cut down in 1913. They grew on the slope of **Moel Spri**, which will presently be on our left.

Soon after leaving Waterloo Hill we enter the village of **Bont-ddu** (*bont-thee*), and at the *Half-way House* may, for a penny, visit a little cataract in the grounds. In the hills above is the St. David's gold mine, which occasionally yields thousands of pounds' worth of the precious metal and then again becomes unproductive. Rather more than a mile farther is a road leading to Penmaenpool. By it the journey to Dolgelley is shortened by a mile—a fact that pedestrians may appreciate—but the coach goes on to **Llanelltyd**, 8 miles from Barmouth, before crossing the Mawddach.

Beyond the bridge there is, on the left, the entrance to **Cymmer Abbey**, a Cistercian house founded about 1200, of which the most noteworthy remnant is the Church. Close by, too, on the left, is **Hengwrt** a fine old mansion, containing beautiful oak carvings. The house is also of interest to many as having been the home of the late Miss Frances Power **Cobbe**. Her grave is in the burial-ground of Llanelltyd.

Pedestrians can take a short cut to Dolgelley by entering a wicket at the spot where the coach road turns to the right, and following a footpath which passes to the left of

Hengwrt and soon joins a tree-shaded field track which runs straight on to a lane, where a turn must be made to the right.

The **Torrent Walk** is described in connection with Dolgelley.

The coach takes passengers to the Walk, waits for them at the upper end, and then conveys them to Dolgelley, where two hours are allowed.

TO TYN-Y-GROES, THE MAWDDACH FALLS, AND THE GOLD MINES.

Fare, 3s. 6d.; box seat, 6d. extra. (Cold luncheons at Tyn-y-Groes Hotel, 2s.). Rail to Dolgelley and thence by coach, 3s.

The route is identical with that just described as far as **Llanelltyd**. Thence the coach goes northward to *Tyn-y-Groes Inn*, 11 miles from Barmouth, passing the **Precipice Walk**, which is on the opposite side of the Mawddach. Passengers can approach the Walk from Tyn-y-Groes, and regain the coach, on its return journey, at Llanelltyd.

Rhaiadr-du is the nearest of the falls to Tyn-y-Groes. To reach it continue along the high-road until the Camlan stream is crossed, about half a mile from the hotel. Then immediately go through a gate on the left, and walk by the stream. Several small falls and cataracts will be seen before the great fall is reached. It is about half a mile from the high-road, and between 50 and 60 feet high.

Pistyll-y-Caen ("the Spout of the Caen") is about 3 miles from the hotel. Continue along the main road for about a quarter of a mile beyond the Camlan stream mentioned above, then cross the Eden, pass on into the wooded glen of the upper Mawddach, and follow the road along the stream. Beyond some buildings connected with the Mount Morgan gold mine, the road becomes a cart-track. At a fork keep to the right, and shortly the Afon Caen will be crossed by a bridge. A few yards above the bridge a narrow stream rushes down a rock at least 150 feet high. It is surrounded by oak, birch, and elm trees, and makes a pretty picture.

Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach ("the Fall of the Mawddach") tumbles over a rock between 50 and 60 feet in height. It is in the vicinity of Pistyll-y-Caen. From the bridge over the Caen turn to the right (instead of to the left for Pistyll-y-Caen). A few yards bring one to the confluence of the Caen and the Mawddach, and the fall is a short distance above that. The glen is very delightful, but except in times of flood the fall itself, owing to the utilization of the water by the miners, is not worth the walk to it.

Or follow the road from Pistyll-y-Caen to the old gold-mining buildings, and go on beyond them to Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach.

Note.—Public conveyances stop at Tyn-y-Groes, but carriages can be taken within half a mile of the falls.

The Gold Mines. To get to these, pass the works and follow the tram-road. Soon after the 19th century had entered upon its second half, the owner of certain copper mines at Bont-ddu began to work them for gold. For a time he met with great success. The discovery of some £60,000 worth in a "bunch" led to the opening of many other mines in Merionethshire, the most famous being those in the vicinity of Pistyll-y-Caen and Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach. They were commonly known as the Morgan Mines, Mr. Pritchard Morgan being the promoter. But the hopes which had been excited were not realized. The precious metal was not obtained in profitable quantities, and gold-mining in Wales was discontinued for some years. Then fresh attempts were made with improved methods and modern machinery; but a Welsh El-Dorado has not yet been found.

TO CWM BYCHAN LAKE, THE ROMAN STEPS AND DRWS ARDUDWY.

Coach fare from Barmouth to the Lake, 3s. 6d. or 4s. (box seats).

This excursion can also be made by rail to Llanbedr and Pensarn station, and thence by Cambrian Railways road conveyance. Fares for the double journey, including road conveyance, 3rd class, 3s., or returning from Maes-y-Garnedd, 4s. 6d. (or 4s. for parties of six or more).

The coach route from Barmouth is along the Harlech road, passing **Llanddwywe Church**, running through the village of **Dyffryn**, and between 2 and 3 miles farther north reaching **Llanbedr**, one of the best fishing villages in North Wales. The neighbourhood is rich in Druidical remains, and the village is a centre for many pleasant walks.

On the coast, three-quarters of a mile from the station, is the ancient **Church of Llandanwg** under the protection of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

On a hill, at a point slightly more than a mile distant, is a *Cromlech* built into a stone wall.

Just before entering Llanbedr from the station, the road passes two ancient *Pillar Stones*, in a field on the right.

In Llanbedr churchyard is a stone with ancient spiral ornamentation, a form of work rare in Wales.

From Llanbedr the coach route lies along the north bank of the *Artro*, up and down steep hills and through wild scenery.

On the way we pass through **Gwynfryn**, and in a mile reach the junction of the Artro and the *Nantcol* (erroneously called *Afon Artro* on the ordnance maps), close to the spot where the former is crossed by a picturesque ivy-mantled bridge. At **Pen-y-Bont** is a second bridge over the Artro, but our course is straight on to the farmhouse of **Dolwreiddiog**, 5 miles from Llanbedr, where the vehicles are "put up" and refreshments can be obtained. Thence there is a walk of about half a mile to **Cwm Bychan** ("the little Dell"), and its fine mountain-encircled lake, by the side of which the roadway runs. Rising precipitously from its southern side is **Craig-y-Saeth** ("the Rock of the Arrow"), famed for its echo. In the background, separated from Craig-y-Saeth by a ravine, is the cairn-crowned summit of **Rhinog Fawr** (2,362 feet).

Note. The walks around Cwm Bychan Lake are open to the public on the express understanding that the path through Cwm Bychan must be used by pedestrians only, and carriages on wheels of any description must stop at the first gate; that visitors will confine themselves to the proper route; will not disturb or remove the roots of ferns, etc.; and will close the gates after passing through them.

For **Rhinog Fawr** follow the path to the Roman steps for about half a mile, and then strike off towards the right. In about twenty minutes the track passes a little lake called **Gloyllin**, and about another hour is needed to complete the ascent. The topmost point has two cairns. The summit of the mountain is a grand view-point.

Or follow the Cwm Bychan road for about 2 miles from Llanbedr, and there turn to the right over a bridge. A mountain track leads over Mynydd Llanbedr, and brings one in front of Rhinog.

The Roman Steps

are reached by continuing along the lake to its eastern end to *Cwm Bychan Farm* just beyond. Pass in front, then turn sharply to the right along the boundary wall, and make for a path which can be seen far away, in a line with the door of the house. There are occasional flights of steps, but the longest stretch is far up the hill, near a wall, some distance beyond the little coppice through which the route runs. On reaching this wall, do not take what seems to be the obvious path straight ahead, but follow the wall to the right for a few yards. The time required to reach this spot from Dolwreiddiog Farm is about forty-five minutes.

The steps are commonly said to have been constructed by the Romans to facilitate the ascent and descent of their sentries to and from the pass, **Bwlch Tyddiad** (1,294 feet high

and $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Llanbedr), but antiquaries attribute them to the British. At the top of the pass is a paved way, supposed to have been formed for the sentry who kept watch from this elevated spot. The steps are said to number over 2,000. Many are as sound as on the day they were first made.

At Dolwreiddiog Farm near Cwm Bychan a guide can be obtained, if wanted, at the following charges: To top of Roman steps, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, 1s.; to Maes-y-Garnedd Farm, in the adjoining valley (*see below*), 5 miles, 2s. 6d.

Drws Ardudwy,

the "Door of Ardudwy," is a wild pass between Rhinog Fawr and Rhinog Fach. Ardudwy is the district adjoining the coast, and is best visited from Dyffryn station. It may, however, be taken by good pedestrians in continuation from the head of the Roman Steps. To reach the pass go through Bwlch Tyddiad and descend to a wall, which comes down from the right to the bottom of a scree and there forms a right angle. Go along this wall, keeping it on the left, and when the wall ends continue in the same direction, to a path which is in part a staircase, but less easy and perfect than the Roman Steps. It leads to Drws Ardudwy.

At the exit of the pass there is a bit of boggy ground to be crossed. Above on the right is *Nantcol Farm*. At a lower elevation on the left is a farm called **Maes-y-Garnedd** ("the Field of Stones"), the birthplace of Col. Jones, brother-in-law of Cromwell, and one of the judges who condemned Charles I.

From Maes-y-Garnedd (*refreshments at the farm*) there is a road, rough at first, but practicable for vehicles, to **Llanbedr** (*Victoria Hotel*). The total distance from Llanbedr to Llanbedr again *via* Cwm Bychan Lake and Drws Ardudwy is $17\frac{1}{2}$ miles, but by driving to Dolwreiddiog and being met at Maes-y-Garnedd, the walking distance is about 6 miles.

TO MOCHRAS OR SHELL ISLAND.

By coach from Barmouth to Llanbedr, 2s. 6d. Or by rail to Pensarn station, thence walk as directed below or take the road conveyance in connection with the Cambrian Railways. Return fare, road and 3rd class rail, 2s. 6d. Or by rail to Pensarn and thence by ferry (*see below*).

Mochras is a tongue of land on the coast seaward of Pensarn station. It is crossed by the river Artro, which practically converts it into an island. On the beach many beautiful shells may be collected, especially after stormy weather. About eighty varieties have been found. The island is also

noted for its lobster and bass fishing. The best time to visit it is when the tide is in.

By Road the route is through the village of Llanbedr and alongside the river Artro, and afterwards across a tract of marshland and sand. From Llanbedr and Pensarn station the pedestrian can walk a few yards along the line in the direction of Barmouth, and immediately after crossing the river climb the wooden steps, or stile, leading on to a grassy embankment running beside the river, and at the end of this embankment take to the track across the marsh and sand, which is indicated by posts.

By Ferry.—A boatman meets all trains. The boats, except at or near low tide, are within a minute's walk from the station. When the tides are not convenient from the station, visitors can walk down the north side of the river until opposite Mochras, where a boatman will be at the ferry to take them across the river. This is two miles shorter than the route around the south side of the river, the road taken by vehicles. Fares: return from station, 9*d.*; single, 6*d.*; from the North Point, at low water only, 2*d.*

In the vicinity of the island is **Sarn Badrig** (St. Patrick's Causeway), a ridge of rocks that stretches into the sea for about 20 miles, of which some 9 are bare at low water. It is one of the fabled embankments of the legendary kingdom of Cantref-y-Gwaelod, situated where now are the waters of Cardigan Bay. The kingdom, we are told, contained sixteen cities, and was protected from the waves by a system of dams, causeways, and embankments, with flood-gates at the mouths of the rivers. These last-named were always closed at high tide. The keeper of the gates was an official of high rank in the court of the king. The last monarch of the country was one Gwyddno, or Venatius, and his sea-ward, Seythènin, was a notorious drunkard, who in a fit of intoxication neglected to close the sluices, and inundated the country, turning what had been the Holland of Britain into its Zuyder Zee. This is said to have occurred some time in the sixth century. Gwyddno, who was a poet as well as a king, appears to have survived the disaster, and left his malediction on the head of his offending sea-ward in a Welsh poem, noted for its vigour, commencing with the interesting line, "Seythènin, saf d allan ac edrych," which may be idiomatically translated "Now see what you have done."



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[London.

THE MAWDDACH AT TYN-Y-GROES.

Barmouth (b).



[London,

BARMOUTH, FROM THE NORTH.

Photochrom Co., Ltd.,]

TO HARLECH.

Coach, 3s. or 3s. 6d. (box seats). Or by rail.

The highway route has already been described as far as Llanbedr, which is only 3 miles short of Harlech. At **Llanfair**, about midway between Llanbedr and Harlech, the visitor who is free to select his route, and is returning to Barmouth, should proceed by the lower road and take the upper one on his way back. Approaching Harlech from the south, one gets, on a clear day, a lovely view of Cardigan Bay, and of the land towards the north. In front, perched on its lofty rock, is the fine old **Castle**. From that to the coast on the west, and northwards to Portmadoc, is the extensive tract known as **Harlech Marsh**. Beyond, the river Glaslyn can be traced almost from the famed Pont Aberglaslyn, near Beddgelert, to its outlet in Traeth Mawr. To the right of the river is Moelwyn, with the sugar-loaf shaped Cynicht. To the left, near Beddgelert, is Moel Hebog; and there, too, is the monarch of Snowdonia. On the coast of the Llyn Peninsula, which stretches away to the west, may be seen **Criccieth Castle** and Pwllheli.

Harlech and its Castle are described on later pages.

OTHER EXCURSIONS.

The excursions by motor coach from Barmouth include a Circular Tour round Snowdon, with time to ascend the mountain, and trips to Beddgelert, Bettws-y-Coed, Tal-y-Llyn Lake and other distant places. Tal-y-Llyn Lake can also be visited in the course of a rail and motor tour arranged by the Cambrian Railways Co., as can also Beddgelert, Aberglaslyn Pass, Snowdon, Bettws-y-Coed, Bethesda and Bangor, all described in the *Guide to the Northern Section of North Wales*. Abersoch and Aberdaron are described in this volume in connection with Pwllheli.

FAIRBOURNE.

Access.—By any of the routes to Barmouth. Fairbourne station is on the Cambrian Railways, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Barmouth Junction. The main road between Dolgelley and Abcrystwyth passes through Fairbourne.

Amusements.—Bathing, boating, croquet, fishing, golf, tennis, bowls.

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Golf.—A good sporting 9-hole course near the shore. The club-house is five minutes' walk from the village. Residents' annual tickets; gentlemen, 21s.; ladies, 15s. Visitors: day, 1s. 6d.; week, 5s.; month, 10s. 6d.

Hotel.—See Introduction.

Inquiries.—Information respecting apartments, etc., will be given by the Postmaster or at the Estate Office. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Mission Church (C. of E.).—11. and 6.30.

Post and Telegraph Office.—Near the Railway Station. Address: Fairbourne, Merioneth.

Tramway from Fairbourne station to Penrhyn Point (2d.). The cars run at fairly frequent intervals. As the tram is sometimes stopped in wet weather, a flag is hoisted on Penrhyn Beacon while it is running.

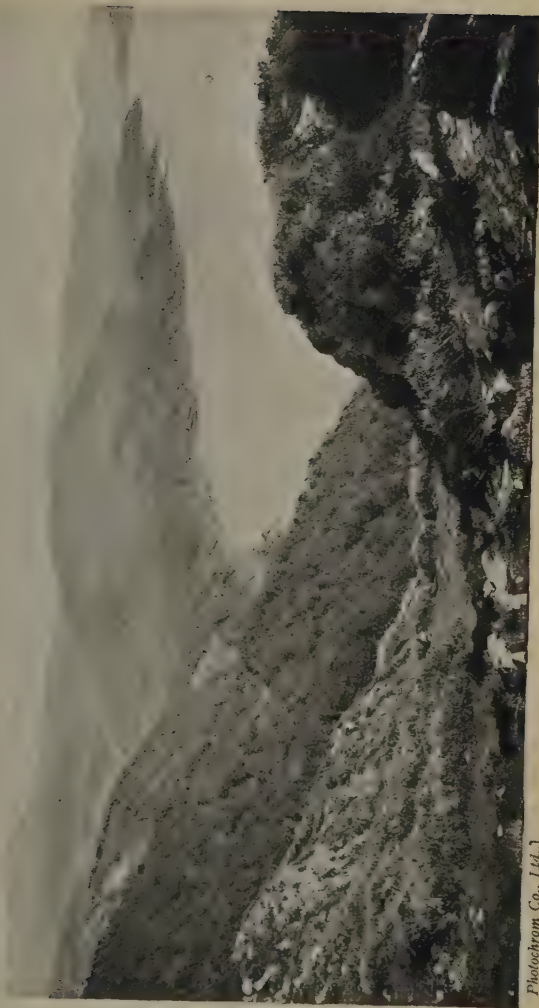
Immediately south of Barmouth Junction, the railway runs between the hamlet of **Friog**, at the foot of the hills, and the small, but growing watering-place of **Fairbourne**, on the low-lying land on the southern side of the Mawddach estuary, with the mountains rising to the east and north, and a fine sandy beach extending for a mile and a half along the coast.

From the beach the whole northern sweep of Cardigan Bay is to be seen, from Bardsey Island and the Carnarvonshire hills to Barmouth; and the view of the Mawddach estuary and of the Cader Idris group of mountains from the sea-front, is very lovely.

Communication between Fairbourne and Barmouth by rail (3 miles), on foot across the viaduct, or by tram and ferry ($2\frac{1}{4}$ miles). The tram runs from Fairbourne station to the shore, then along the shore and past the golf links to **Penrhyn Point**, from which rowing boats ferry one across to the quay at Barmouth (*fare 2d.*).

Fairbourne shares with Barmouth the facilities of the Mawddach estuary for boating, sea-fishing, and sailing, and as it is almost at the middle point of the Cambrian coast railway it forms a convenient centre for excursions to the many places of interest up and down the coast.

From Fairbourne station it is a pleasant walk of about 3 miles along the Towyn road to **Llwyngwrl**. The road goes round the headland at a considerable height and affords a magnificent view of Barmouth and the coast.



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THE MAWDDACH ESTUARY AND DIPHWYS, FROM PANORAMA WALK.

[London.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

HARLECH CASTLE.

[Reigate.]

HARLECH.

Angling.—In several streams.

Distances by Rail.—Barmouth, 10½ miles; Portmadoc, 9 miles.

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Golf.—*Royal St. David's Golf Club* 18-hole coast course. Club-house within ¼ mile of railway station. Gentlemen; entrance fee, 63s.; annual subscription, 42s. Ladies' entrance fee, 42s.; annual subscription, 21s. Visitors' green fees: 10s. week, 2s. 6d. day, except in August and September, when the charges are 50s. month, 15s. week, 3s. 6d. day.

Reading Room and Library.—Day, 2d.; week, 6d. Billiards. Hot and cold baths, 6d. Open, week days only, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tennis.—On the Golf Links.

Harlech, though now having the appearance of a village, is the ancient county town of Merionethshire. It is built on the slopes and summit of the hill, 200 feet high, from which its name, properly "Arlech" ("on the rock") is derived. The seaward side of the hill is crowned by the renowned Castle, so widely known by name, at least.

Harlech has a splendid sandy beach, affording safe and pleasant bathing, but unfortunately for the ancient borough the sea is nearly a mile from it. On the intervening marsh is the *Royal St. David's Golf Course*, one of the finest courses in the Principality. Several fine private residences have been built of late years, and the old town annually attracts summer residents. It is appreciated by those who enjoy a quiet spot.

The excursions from Barmouth and also those from Portmadoc are easily available for visitors at Harlech.

Harlech Castle.

(Admission, 3d.).

The Castle is one of the most finely situated ruins in Wales. It has a history which goes back to Bran the Blessed, who is credited with having introduced Christianity into Britain from Rome, where he was hostage for his son. It is generally believed that Edward I built the existing structure upon the ruins of an earlier one. As a fortress it was quite unassailable on the side overhanging the sea, and on the other side was protected by a wide and deep fosse, cut through the solid rock. The Castle was completed in 1283. It was taken by the Welsh during the rebellion of Owen Glendower in 1404; and after the defeat of Henry VI at Northampton, in 1460, was the refuge of his spirited queen, Margaret of Anjou.

In 1468 the Castle was in the possession of Dafydd ap Ifan ap Einion, a man of singular strength and beauty, and of unconquerable bravery. He was firmly attached to the House of Lancaster, and the Earl of Pembroke was despatched

to reduce the fortress. When called on to surrender, Dafydd replied to the messengers who brought the summons, "Tell your leader that some years ago I held a castle in France for the king so long that all the old women in Wales talked of it; and now I intend to hold this Welsh castle until all the old women in France shall talk of it." He was at last compelled by famine to yield. It is said that the hardships suffered by the garrison inspired the composition of that stirring Welsh air, the *March of the Men of Harlech*.

On the outbreak of the Civil War the fortress was put into a state of defence and held for the King. It was taken by a Parliamentary force under General Mytton in 1647. The ruins are extensive. The courtyard is used for an annual festival of choirs from Machynlleth and Dolgelley to Portmadoc, about 2,000 voices in all.

Before its destruction the Castle was a massive square building measuring 70 yards along each side, with a round tower at each angle and one on either side of the entrance. In the principal chamber, on the first floor over the left-hand room, are well-preserved Edwardian fireplaces. The great hall was on the opposite side of the court.

In the south-eastern angle, near which are some querns (hand-mill stones), is a staircase by which the battlements can be reached. The **View** from the walls is charming. It includes Criccieth Castle, 7 miles distant; the Rivals, a little to the left of Criccieth; Snowdon, in the north; and Moelwyn, towards the north-east, at the eastern termination of the Snowdonian range.

Another excellent view, point is **Moel Senigl**, a low hill easily ascended, 2 miles from Harlech.

For a most pleasant walk from Harlech the road to **Tal-sarnau** station, 4 miles northward, should be taken. For a great part of the way it runs through beautiful scenery, while away on the left the sea is in sight, and far ahead are lofty mountains.

About a mile from Harlech the road to Tal-sarnau passes to the right of a hillock called **Glas Ynys** (the Green Isle). On the eastern side is the old farmhouse, *Lâsynys Fawr*, in which was born the famous scholar and poet, Ellis Wynne, author of a Welsh classic, the Englished title of which is the *Vision of the Sleeping Bard*. A folding bedstead fastened to the wall is said to have belonged to him. He died in 1734, and was buried under the communion table in Llanfair Church, about 1½ miles south of Harlech.

Another delightful walk is offered by the road from Tal-sarnau to **Maentwrog**, 7 miles. Maentwrog is described in the chapter on Festiniog.

DOLGELLEY.

Access.—By Great Western Railway *via* Ruabon and the Valley of the Dee, or by the Cambrian Railways Coast Line *via* Barmouth.

Banks.—*National Provincial and London City & Midland.*

Boating.—At Penmaenpool, a short railway ride.

Club.—The *Social Club* in Lombard Street, near the Square, has baths, an excellent library, a reading room and billiard tables. Visitors, 2s. 6d. a week, 5s. a month.

Cricket.—There is a good Cricket Club. Visitors are welcomed.

Distances. (By Rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberdovey . . .	21½	Bala . . .	18	London . . .	243
Aberystwyth . .	44	Barmouth . . .	10	Maclynlleth . .	31½

(By Road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberystwyth . .	35	Corris Station .	10½	Tal-y-Llyn . . .	9
Arthog . . .	6½	Festiniog . . .	18	Towyn . . .	20
Barmouth . . .	10	Llangollen . . .	39	Tyn-y-Groes . .	5
Bont-ddu . . .	4	Penmaenpool . .	2½	Welshpool . . .	38

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—Free sport in several mountain tarns. Visitors can also obtain permission to fish in preserved waters, and at Penmaenpool (a short railway ride from Dolgelley) excellent sea-fishing can be enjoyed. *See Appendix for Anglers.*

Golf.—*Hengwrt Golf Links*, 1 mile from the town. 9 holes. Visitors, 1s. 6d. a day, 5s. a week, 10s. a month.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See Introduction.*

Places of Worship, with hours of English services:—

St. Mary's—11 and 3.30

English Congregational—11.15 and 6.

English Presbyterian—11 and 6.

Population (1911), 2,160.

Post Office.—Opposite Ship Hotel. Open 8 to 8, Sundays 8.30 to 10 a.m. and 12.30 to 1 p.m.

Public Library.—Eldon Row, The Square. Includes a reading room and a billiard room.

Recreation Ground.—Near Railway Station.

Tennis.—A club having courts near the Green issues weekly and fortnightly tickets to visitors.

Dolgelley (*dol-ge-th-ley*) is nearly in the centre of Merionethshire, of which it is the assize and principal market town. It is situated in a wide and fertile valley, on the river *Wnion* (*oonion*), over which is a stone bridge of seven arches, erected in 1638. Near the railway the Wnion receives a stream called the *Aran*, which comes from the Mynydd Aran, one of the hills of the Cader range. The town is an old one. A Roman road passes it and on the site of the town coins bearing the inscription, "Imp. Cæsar Trajan," have been unearthed. In 1405, Owen Glendower assembled the last Welsh Parlia-

ment here, and from it was dated the celebrated treaty with Charles VII of France. The house which was locally regarded as that in which the Parliament sat was taken down in 1882, to make room for a shop, and was removed bodily to Newtown, where it stands in Sir Pryce Jones's park.

Owen Glendower, made familiar by Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, was a descendant through his mother of Llewelyn the Great, who was slain in battle against Edward I, and was the last native Prince of Wales.

Glendower studied law in London, and was employed by Richard II. Losing his place by the dethronement of Richard, he returned to his native country, and there found that his patrimony had been seized by Lord Grey of Ruthin. In revenge, he got together a body of armed men, and made reprisals with such success that he was encouraged to proclaim his genealogy and lay claim to the throne of Wales. The Welsh acknowledged him as their prince, and he was crowned; but after the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, which was fatal to his allies, Earl Douglas and Hotspur, the heir of the Percies, his fortune declined. He is believed, however, to have ended his days peacefully, and is said to have been buried in the churchyard of Monnington-on-Wye.

The thoroughfares of Dolgelley are narrow and crooked, and though there are many well-built houses, and there have been many "improvements," the place retains its old-world character. No description of Dolgelley can excel that given by an old gentleman after dinner with the aid of a decanter and a handful of nutshells. "You see," he said, "this decanter; that is the church." Then taking the shells and pouring them over the decanter, he said, "and those are the houses."

Dolgelley is well lighted and drained, and an excellent water supply is obtained from Llyn Cynwch, near the Precipice Walk. The town was formerly somewhat celebrated for the manufacture of flannel and tweed, but there is now only one small mill. As Dolgelley is the resort of anglers and others during the greater part of the year, and lodging-house keepers are not dependent on a short season for their livelihood, apartments may be had on moderate terms.

The Church

stands in the centre of the town. It is a plain building dating from 1726. Among the monuments is a well-executed freestone statue, in the armour of the thirteenth century, to "Maurice, the son of Ynyr Vychan, an ancestor of the



[Dundee

DOLGELLEY.

Valentine & Sons, Ltd.,]



[Reigate.]

PENMAENPOOL BRIDGE.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

Vaughans of Nannau." Another monument honours Chief Baron Richards, a native of Dolgelley, and in the churchyard is a monument to an eminent Welsh poet, Dafydd Ionawr.

The principal secular edifice is the **County Hall**. It was erected in 1825, and contains portraits of county celebrities. The best (painted by Sir M. A. Shee, R.A.) is of Sir Robert W. Vaughan, Bart., who laid out the Precipice Walk and for many years represented the county in Parliament.

In Eldon Square is a **Market Hall**, having above it a large Assembly Room.

On the road leading to the Torrent Walk is the **County Intermediate School**, and on the Barmouth Road is **Dr. Williams's Endowed School for Girls**, one of the most flourishing and successful institutions in Wales.

Although so quiet, Dolgelley is a prosperous town. It is an excellent headquarters for anglers and a most convenient centre from which to visit the incomparable scenery of the neighbourhood. Sir R. C. Hoare affirmed that he "knew of no place in the Principality from which so many pleasing and interesting excursions might be made, and where nature bears so rich, varied, and grand an aspect."

Near the bridge over the Wnion is the **Marian**, or Green, used as a public recreation ground. As it borders the river and is supplied with seats, it forms a pleasant resting-place. It also contains a well-laid cricket pitch and pavilion.

Walks and drives of great interest radiate from Dolgelley. The finest is the western road to Barmouth, and one of the easiest routes to the summit of Cader Idris is the Bridle Path, which diverges from the Upper Towyn Road about 2 miles from the town. The one-day cycle tours which can be taken from the town are among the best that Wales affords.

EXCURSIONS FROM DOLGELLEY.

TO THE TORRENT WALK.

The Torrent Walk, beloved of artists, is less than a mile long, and is in the grounds of **Caerynweh**, a mansion at the head of the glen. It is seen to the greatest advantage by those who enter at the lower end.

To reach the Torrent Walk, leave Dolgelley by the **Machynlleth** or **Dinas Mawddwy** road. Rather more than a mile from the town turn down a lane on the left, opposite a quarry. The lane leads to a bridge over the *Edog*, the stream which forms the torrent. Just short of the bridge the Walk is entered by a small gate on the right, over which is a board

conveying the intimation that the grounds are private, and that visitors are admitted on condition that they do not touch the ferns or mosses. The path leads through a delightful glen, with the torrent for companion all the way.

At the end is a board inscribed "The Torrent Walk ends here. Turn to the right for Dolgelley." The town is 3 miles off, down the hill.

Or pedestrians may continue southward by the road which runs almost parallel with the stream to the *Cross Foxes Inn*, about a mile from the upper end of the Torrent Walk. The return to Dolgelley from the inn may be made by the "Old Road," on which is a burial-ground of the Quakers, who, in the seventeenth century, comprised several influential families of the neighbourhood.

THE PRECIPICE WALK.

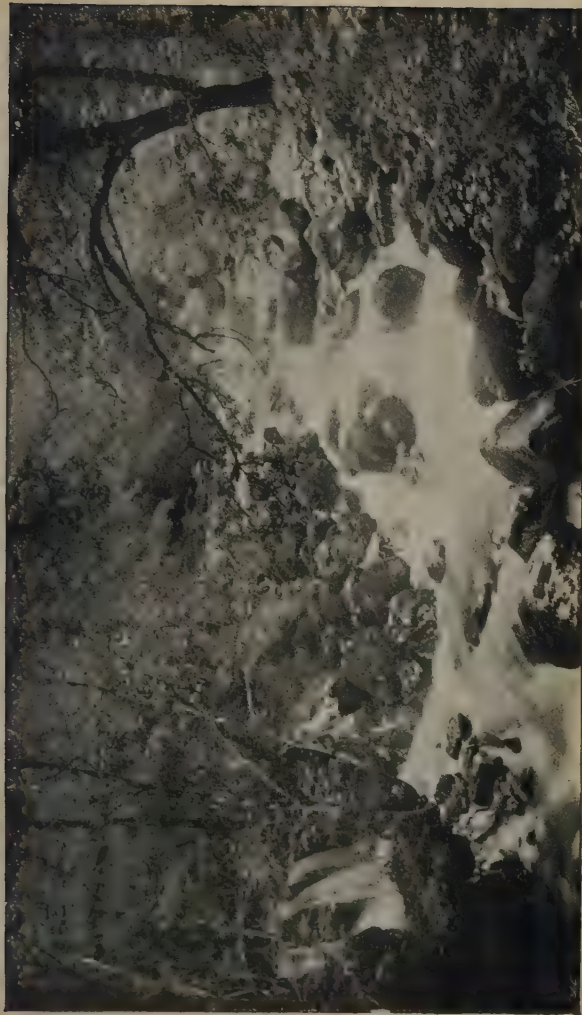
This famous Walk makes the circuit of **Moel Cynwch**, and the grandeur of the view amply compensates the climber. The path has been cut like a ledge along the slope of the hill, and in places reaches a considerable height. The total distance from Dolgelley round the Walk and back is about 7 miles, but the use of conveyances reduces the walking distance to $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

From the station the carriage route goes to the right, along the Bala road. In about 200 yards it turns to the left and again to the left half a mile farther. At the end of the next half mile it reaches a cottage on the left, called *Efail Isaf*, or *Efail Fach*, where conveyances are left.

Under local guidance pedestrians may proceed by a foot-path starting from the vicinity of the station. They reach the road leading to *Maes-y-bryner* (see below).

After the cottage we turn to the left and in about 50 yards cross a stile on the right, from which we make for another stile against a building. Thence we proceed across a field to a third stile, which admits us to the old road leading to *Maes-y-bryner*. Going to the right we pass *Maes-y-bryner*. On reaching an arch we cross a stile on the left and then follow a path leading to a road upon which we turn to the right, and by going forward arrive at **Llyn Cynwch**, a long, narrow sheet of water, at a height of 739 feet, bordered on the west by the hill containing the walk we are seeking.

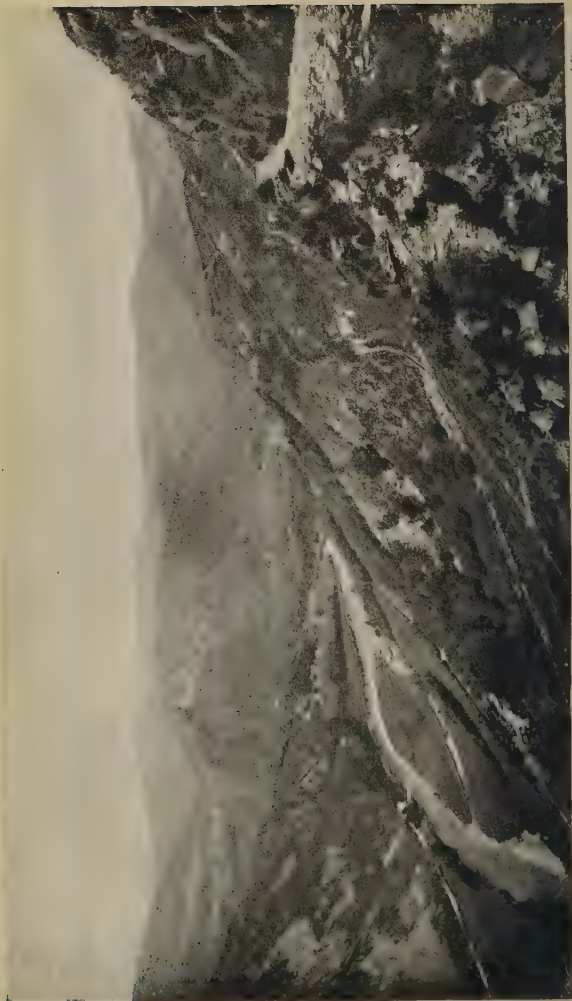
Our route is along the west shore of the lake. We prolong the walk for a short distance beyond the water, and then take a path on the left going up the mountain-side to—



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TORRENT WALK, DOLGELLEY.

[Reigate.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

PRECIPICE WALK, DOLGELLEY.

[*Reigate.*

The Precipice Walk.

Soon we see the Arans on our right and the Snowdonian mountains far ahead. By looking back we see the mansion of Nannau, with **Moel Offrwm** (the Mount of Sacrifice), 1,328 feet, rising above it.

Nannau, the seat of the Vaughan family, is 800 feet above the sea, and is believed to occupy a higher site than any other mansion in Great Britain. The original mansion was the residence of Howel Sele, the cousin, but inveterate enemy, of Owen Glendower. An aged oak, twenty-eight feet in circumference, once stood in the park, and, according to tradition, the body of Sele was concealed in its hollow trunk after he had been killed by Glendower, whose life Sele had treacherously attempted to take.

The historian Pennant gives the following version of the legend :—

“ Howel Sele, of Nannau, in Merionethshire, first cousin to Owen, was an adherent of the House of Lancaster. Owen and this chieftain had been long at variance. I have been informed that the Abbot of Kymmer, in hopes of reconciling them, brought them together, and to all appearance effected his charitable design. While they were walking out, Owen observed a doe feeding, and told Howel, who was reckoned the best archer of his day, that there was a fine mark for him. Howel bent his bow, and, pretending to aim at the doe, suddenly turned and discharged his arrow full at the breast of Glendower, who fortunately had armour beneath his clothes, and received no hurt. Enraged at this treachery, he seized on Sele, burnt his house, and hurried him away from the place; nor could any one learn how he was disposed of, till forty years after, when the skeleton of a large man, such as Howel, was discovered in the hollow of a great oak, in which Owen was supposed to have immured him in reward for his perfidy.”

A sundial, on Nannau lawn, with a brass plate, on which is an inscription and a representation of an oak, now marks the place where once stood “ the spirit’s blasted tree.” The tree fell to the ground, struck by lightning, on the night of the 13th of July, 1813.

Continuing our walk we get in a line with the delightful **Ganllwyd Valley**, and looking up it may see Snowdon. By following the walk we make the circuit of the hill, finally arriving again at Llyn Cynwch.

Standing at the end of the lake, and having the water on our left, we are facing the way down. To enter upon it we use a ladder stile. Where doubt as to the route might arise there stands a house upon which is a board pointing out the way. The path indicated leads to a road that runs under an arch. We do not pass under the arch but turn to the right and are led to the left of Maes-y-bryner buildings.

In half a mile we come to a footpath on the left. This leads to the cottage at which the conveyances were left.

Those returning to Dolgelley on foot should not take the path to the cottage, but continue to follow the road for about a third of a mile and there take a lane on the left. In this take the first turn on the right and then very shortly turn to the left at a small farm, from which there is an almost straight route to Dolgelley, first by a lane and then by a footpath.

THE TORRENT AND PRECIPICE WALKS.

Some visitors combine the two Walks in one excursion. Pedestrians and private carriages can pass from the Torrent Walk to the Precipice Walk without returning to Dolgelley between the two. The distance between is 4 miles, and the entire excursion covers about 12 miles.

Proceed to the foot of the Torrent Walk, as already described, thence to the upper end. There follow the lane to the left. Soon a school is passed on the right, and a little farther is St. Mark's Church. About a mile from the Torrent Walk is a small chapel, and the road forks. Keep to the left, and in a few yards come to a small shop, which is also the Brithdir Post Office. There turn to the left, and follow a lane descending steeply and sweeping round to *Bont Newydd* station, which can be reached in about ten minutes.

Cross the railway, and, turning to the left, follow the Dolgelley road. Just beyond the entrance to *Dol-serau Park*, take a road to the right. Avoid the first road on the right, but a little farther, when the road forks, take the right hand branch. It soon becomes a green road, and runs by the side of the high wall of Nannau Park. It ends in the vicinity of Nannau lodge. At the lodge walk by the drive for some 300 yards and then follow a path on the left running alongside a brook. Very soon a plank bridge will be reached. Cross the stream and go straight forward to Maes-y-bryner, where turn to the right for the arch mentioned in the description of the route to the Precipice Walk.

THE VOEL, OR NEW PRECIPICE WALK.

This skirts the Voel mountain, which has a height of 1,600 feet and is opposite the Cader range. It opens up a charming view of mountain and sea. The distance out and home is 6 miles, but the walking distance can be reduced by using the railway between Penmaenpool and Dolgelley.

From Dolgelley proceed by the main road or *via* Pen-y-cefn

to Llanelltyd Church. There turn to the left at the spot where a road leads to the neighbouring Cae Coch Farm. Following the footpath you come to a disused tramway, and by continuing to the westward you arrive at a roadway, with a small chapel close by. Then keep to the left and you will be led to the main road. Follow this over Penmaenpool Bridge to the railway station, from which the return to Dolgelley can be made by train, or the high-road can be followed.

TO THE GANLLWYD VALLEY AND TYN-Y-GROES.

Cross the railway bridge near the station and turn to the left. A little short of Llanelltyd Bridge is a farm road on the right leading to the remains of **Cymmer Abbey**. Pedestrians can reach the ruins by a short cut along a steep lane, which leaves the main road near Dolgelley Station and passes behind Hengwrt. Soon after crossing Llanelltyd Bridge, turn to the right, up Ganllwyd Valley, and follow the road to Tyn-y-Groes, described under the Barmouth excursions. Tyn-y-Groes is about 5 miles from Dolgelley.

TO PANDY AND THE ARAN GLEN.

This is a pleasant walk by the side of a streamlet overshadowed by foliage and having many pretty little waterfalls in its course.

Follow a lane which runs southward from the Dinas Mawddwy road just as the latter leaves the town. **Pandy Mill** is reached in half a mile. There bend to the left, and a short distance farther double back through a gate on the right, and thence keep the main stream on the right, taking care not to be led astray by a tributary which should be crossed not far from Pandy.

TO RHAIADR WNION.

This is a charming spot close to Bont Newydd station, three miles eastward of Dolgelley. The proprietor has constructed a mile of walks along the banks of the pretty river *Wnion*, and a delightful combination of mountain, gorge, and water scenery is presented.

THE ASCENT OF CADER IDRIS.

A general description of the mountain has been given in connection with the ascent from Barmouth.

From Dolgelley there is a choice of routes.

(a) **By the Pony Track.** 6 miles.

This is one of the easiest routes. From Dolgelley Square

take the upper road, the old Towyn hill-road, which goes to the left just outside Dolgelley. At the end of 2 miles is **Llyn Gwernan**. (Beyond the lake the summit of Cader comes into view, as do also, on the right, the Saddle and Tyrau-mawr, these being separated by a depression, in the lowest part of which stand two stone posts, to which the path leads.) Continue along the road until about 3 miles from Dolgelley. Then the route lies up a lane on the left, a little short of the second of two small bridges. The lane soon gives place to a path which at once crosses the stream and runs through a small wood to a farmhouse, where it forks, one branch recrossing the stream, while the other goes straight up. The latter must be followed. Then there comes a sharp turn to the left, along the ridge, which is gained at a spot marked by the two stones already alluded to, and thence the route is identical with that from Barmouth. The stones are 1,842 feet above sea level, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Dolgelley.

(b) **By the Foxes' Path, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.**

The Foxes' Path is the name given to a very steep track covered with loose stones. It rises 900 feet, from the head of Llyn-y-Gader, at an angle of 35° . It serves better for descent than for ascent.

In ascending, follow the old Towyn road as far as the farther end of Llyn Gwernan, and there take a plain footpath on the left. When the range comes into view, strike off to the Foxes' Path, the broad, yellowish slope on the left of the summit. The route passes the small **Llyn-y-Gafr** (beyond which there is no path) and a larger lake called **Llyn-y-Gader**. When the top of the ridge has been reached, the summit of Cader will be gained by going some 300 yards to the right.

The descent of the Foxes' Path. Standing by the summit cairn, face Dolgelley, and then take a path going towards the right. It bears to the left, and soon leads to a little cairn. From that follow a path to the right to a yellowish track—the Foxes' Path. The route passes near a spring of delicious water, and the Foxes' Path leads very steeply down to **Llyn-y-Gader**, a good trout lake. Thence, keeping to the right, make for **Llyn-y-Gafr**, whence the path is plain. It crosses two streams, turns left, runs through a gate, and towards a wall; then it somewhat indistinctly makes for another wall, which remains on the right for a little distance; next it passes through another gate, near a sheepfold; and after going through two more gates runs over a hill into the upper Towyn road and so to Dolgelley.

CRICCIETH.

Owing to conditions brought about by the War, the following details are liable to alteration.

Access.—Criccieth is served by the Cambrian, London & North-Western and Great Western Railways. The London & North-Western joins the Cambrian at Afon Wen, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the town. The Great Western runs through Ruabon, Llangollen and Bala and meets the Cambrian line at Dolgelley. Passengers by either the London & North-Western or the Great Western can book *via* the Cambrian, joining it at Whitchurch or Shrewsbury, when they will pass through some of the most delightful scenery in Wales, and along the shores of Cardigan Bay. Good connections with the North Staffordshire and Midland Railways are secured at Crewe and Stafford. An express service is run by the Cambrian Railways from South and Mid-Wales.

During the season through carriages run from London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and other centres. The journey to or from London occupies a little over 6 hours, to or from Birmingham and Wolverhampton a little over 5 hours, Liverpool and Manchester about 4 hours.

Angling.—Trout fishing in local rivers, and there are trout and salmon waters within easy reach of the town.

Banks.—*National Provincial, Metropolitan of England and Wales, and London City & Midland.* All in High Street.

Bathing.—Safe at all states of the tide. Tents and machines, 3d. each person.

Boating.—6d. per hour. Canoeing is very popular.

Croquet.—On the Tennis Club's ground.

Distances.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Barmouth	24	Festiniog	18	Pont Aberglaslyn .	$11\frac{1}{2}$
Beddgelert	$12\frac{1}{2}$	Harlech (by rail) .	14	Portmadoc	5
Carnarvon	20	„ (by sea)	7	Pwllheli	8

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Entertainments.—In the Town Hall, Parish Hall and the Pavilion.

Golf.—A sporting course of 18 holes overlooking Cardigan Bay and having Snowdonia as a background. Annual tournament in August. Visitors' fees: single round, 1s. 6d.; per day, gentlemen, 2s. 6d.; ladies, 2s.; week, 7s. 6d. and 5s.; fortnight, 12s. 6d. and 9s.; month, £1 and 15s.; season, 30s. and 20s.

Hotels.—*See Introduction.*

Inquiries.—Address Secretary, Improvement Association, Criccieth. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. Deiniol's, 11.15 and 6.30.

Presbyterian, 11 and 6.30.

Wesleyan, 11 and 7.

Llanystumdwy Church ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles), 11.15, and first Sunday in the month (August, every Sunday) at 3 p.m.

Population.—(1911) 1,376.

Post, Telegraph and Telephone Office.—High Street. Sub-Post Office, 1 Marine Crescent.

Public Library and Reading Room, on the main road towards the western end of the town; Lending Library, 10.30 to 1, and 2 to 7; Reading Room, 10.30 to 1, and 2 to 10.30; Billiards, 10.30 to 10.30.

Sea-Fishing.—Mackerel, herring, gurnet, whiting, and flat fish can be caught in the sea, and good baskets of prawns can be obtained from the rocks.

Tennis.—There is a flourishing club with a number of courts. The annual tournament in August attracts many of the best players in the Kingdom.

CRICCIETH, a town of considerable antiquity, in the South Carnarvonshire peninsula, is generally regarded as being the most natural of all the Welsh watering-places of importance. Standing on the north-east of Cardigan Bay, the largest of British bays, it commands a delightful panorama of mountains and sea. A few old cottages remain, but for the most part its buildings are modern villas or detached houses for the accommodation of summer visitors.

Running through the town from east to west is the Main Road, or **High Street**. Along this thoroughfare, or near it, are the shops, the principal Post Office, the railway station, and most of the places of worship. In the centre is an open recreation ground, formerly the Common, and known locally as the **Maes**.

Criccieth has characteristics both rural and marine. The buildings are scattered, and there are extensive "greens," planted with shrubs, which testify to the mildness of—

The Climate.

Such plants as the myrtle, fuchsia and hydrangea flourish in the open. Indeed, fuchsias 12 to 15 feet in height may be seen blooming in exposed situations.

Criccieth is the only watering-place in North Wales which faces *due* south, and as the ground slopes in the same direction, the town gets the full benefit of the sun's rays. In the number of its sunny days Criccieth compares favourably with South Coast resorts. High ground shelters the town from north and east winds.

Dr. Percy Lush, of London, after several visits, wrote : " I think one may fairly say that the number of medical men who visit Criccieth, several of whom represent the most eminent names in the profession, may be taken as evidence that Criccieth is a distinctly healthy place."

Dr. J. S. Bristowe, Senior Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, after three visits each of six weeks' duration, wrote of Criccieth : " I regard it as a particularly salubrious locality, and it is one of the places which I have recommended, and shall continue to recommend, to my friends and patients who are in search of health and enjoyment."

The town is well drained, and has a good supply of the purest water from springs on the mountains 7 miles away.

Dividing the shore in two is a rock on which are the remains of—

The Castle

(Admission to grounds, 1d.)

with which the history of the town is intimately connected.

The rock on which the Castle stands has been fortified from the earliest times. The founder of the present Castle is unknown. Early in the thirteenth century a son of Llewelyn the Great was imprisoned in the fortress. Edward I strengthened and cased the towers, and portions of two still stand. The Castle was occupied down to the time of Queen Elizabeth. It is now the property of Lord Harlech.

The Castle provides an excellent view-point. Another is a hill between the railway station and the shore. A footpath runs over and around it.

The Beach,

of sand and pebbles, is not of great extent. To the west of the Castle it is bounded by cliffs, on which stands the **Marine Terrace**; to the east is an **Esplanade**. The sea never recedes far, and as there are no currents, safe and pleasant bathing can be enjoyed at all hours.

Boating, especially canoeing, is extensively patronized, and so safe is the pastime that ladies and young children may be seen on the water, each paddling his or her own canoe.

The **Public Library**, with reading room, was opened in 1904. Here have been placed two copper cakes bearing the impression of Roman letters, found on the shore near Afon Wen in 1907. They weigh 44 lb. and 36 lb. respectively, are from eleven to twelve inches in diameter and from two to three inches thick.

The **Parish Church**, rebuilt in 1873, is a low building, consisting of a small nave and aisle. It is dedicated to St. Catherine and has sitting accommodation for about 300 persons.

At a short distance stands the much larger **Church of St. Deiniol**, in the Early Decorated style. The services are in English. St. Deiniol, it may be recalled, was the first Bishop of Bangor. He taught Christianity in Britain nearly a hundred years before the arrival of St. Augustine in Kent.

On the hill to the north of Criccieth High Street, and visible from many parts of the town, is **Bryn Awelon**, a modern timbered house with white walls, the residence of the Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P. Just westward of the Public Library, but on the opposite side of the main road, a lane with the lodge of another house at its entrance leads past Bryn Awelon and gives a view of its front.

WALKS FROM CRICCIETH.

THE BLACK ROCK AND CAVES.

The **Black Rock**, so called from its appearance, projects into the sea, about a mile eastward of the Castle Hill. It is much frequented by boating and picnic parties. By land it can be reached by walking along the beach, a rough bit of which can be avoided by taking the path by the side of the railway. The entrance to this is at the level crossing, near the esplanade.

The caves are in the cliffs immediately beyond the Black Rock, and are best seen at low water. They can be reached by boat, or by a path leading over the hill.

Instead of returning by the beach, the visitor can take the cart-track to the left of the Black Rock. This will lead towards **Treflys Church**, which will be seen on a hill. The Church has an early inscribed stone with incised cross. The road to the left of the Church should be followed. As it winds round, another church, that of **Ynyseynhaiarn**, will be seen in a hollow. In the churchyard is a locally noted grave, the resting-place of David Owen, whose bardic name was *Dafydd y Garreg Wen* (David of the White Rock). He died in 1749 at the age of 29. Eventually the visitor will come to the Portmadoc road, through a gate under the railway bridge at Wern, or by a path leading under the railway.

FFYNNON SAINT, OR HOLYWELL PATH.

This is a short but very pleasant walk, especially on a hot day, as much of the route is shaded. Proceed by way of Criccieth Parish Church, along the back of the Rectory and Holywell Terrace and out into the Carnarvon Road.

TO EDNYFED HILL.

This is but a short distance north of Criccieth. The summit, though only about 350 feet above sea-level, commands an



[Oswestry.]

CRICCIETH.

[J. Maclary.]



Photo by]

[W. Stewart.

THE YSTUMCEGID CROMLECH.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

[Reigate.

THE CEFNISA CROMLECH.

extensive view, including Snowdon and Cardigan Bay. One route to it runs past the Parish Church (the old church), along a road which leads through two gates and almost to the summit. The golf links are here.

Another route is as follows: Go up the Carnarvon Road to Arvonja Terrace, there turn to the right and follow a cart road approached through an iron gate. From this road take a path which leads through some fields into a carriage drive. Cross the drive and go through a V gate at the gable end of the coach-house and stables. Then a second V gate will be reached; there turn to the left for the summit of the hill, keeping as close to the wall as possible.

The path to the right from the second V gate leads into the Parish Church road referred to above.

TO LLANYSTUMDWY.

Llanystumdwy (the church-at-the-bend-of-the-Dwy-river) is a village about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Criccieth, on the Pwllheli road. It is a picturesque little place, in a wooded hollow on the banks of the *Dwyfawr*, here crossed by a charming old-world bridge. Several county families have seats in the neighbourhood.

Here the boyhood of Mr. Lloyd George was spent. The village may be approached from Criccieth either by the main road, sometimes called the lower road, or by the upper road, which passes at the back of Bryn Awelon.

The upper road may be reached from the High Street by taking the first turning on the right westward of the Public Library, or by going up the Carnarvon Road, passing the *White Lion Hotel* and then turning up Arvonja Terrace, on the left. Those who go by the upper road should, just before reaching the bridge, turn off into the wood on the right, and go down to the water's edge to enjoy the view along the river. A path runs by the side of the stream to the bridge. At the entrance to the village by the main road from Criccieth is the *Feathers Inn*, and nearly opposite the public-house are two cottages at the roadside. The westward one was Mr. D, Lloyd George's home during his early years, and in the small lean-to building at the side of the cottage the uncle, the late Mr. Richard Lloyd, by whom Mr. George was brought up, followed his trade of shoe-maker. The cliff walk runs from the West Parade to the river Dwyfor, formed by the union of the *Dwyfawr* and the *Dwyfach*. At

the river a turn to the right must be taken, and shortly there is another turn to the right, after which the highway is reached. The village lies about a quarter of a mile to the left.

TO RHYDYCROESAU BRIDGE.

The attraction here is a bit of scenery even prettier than that at Llanystumdwy. It is along the river *Dwyfach*, and the spot is a mile beyond Llanystumdwy village.

Proceed to the latter as above. Cross the bridge and go along the main road to the top of the hill, and there turn to the right. At the lodge entrance turn to the left. Much of the walk is shaded by trees, and the scenery is delightful.

The visitor who prefers not to retrace his steps, and does not object to an additional mile, may return to Criccieth by taking the road to the left, on the farther side of Rhydycroesau bridge, and turning to the left again on reaching the main road. This route crosses the *Dwyfach* at Pontfechan.

TO RHYDYBENLLIG BRIDGE.

The bridge crosses the *Dwyfawr* river about a mile above Llanystumdwy, and is at a shady spot which is the delight of anglers and artists. Follow the Carnarvon road for about half a mile, and where a guide-post on the left directs, strike across three fields approached by stone steps. After rain parts of the ground are boggy, but there are stepping-stones, and in any case the proper track should be followed.

From the third field a path leads into the high-road, in which turn to the left, and the bridge and the old mill on the bank of the river will quickly be reached. For a good view, cross the bridge, turn off to the left, and go down to the bank of the stream.

Taking the route in the reverse direction, on entering the second field, keep to the right along the wall.

The return may be made *via* Llanystumdwy as follows:—From Rhydybenllig Bridge, proceed along the Carnarvon road to a cross-road about half a mile from the bridge. There turn to the left. At Llanystumdwy, cross the bridge, and then follow either the upper or the lower road to Criccieth. With this extension the walk will make about 5 miles.

TO THE CEFNISA CROMLECH.

To Rhydybenllig Bridge as above, then to the cross-road half a mile beyond. Turn to the right. In a few yards turn

again to the right, in front of a row of cottages, and the cromlech will soon be seen in a field, near the hedge.

TO THE YSTUMCEGID CROMLECH.

This, the largest cromlech in the district, stands about two miles from Criccieth. Go along the Carnarvon road for about a mile. Then take the road to the right, opposite a farmhouse called *Gell*, which stands on the left-hand side of the road, a few yards from the turning at the top of the hill. Next pass through a white iron gate, and follow the road across which it shuts until a farmhouse is reached on the left. There follow a cart road leading past the house and through two fields (taking care to close all gates which have to be opened). Beyond the second field farm buildings are reached. These are left on the right, and another field is entered over stone steps. Then the cromlech will be seen a few yards ahead. The capstone is nearly 5 yards long.

TO THE VALE OF PENNANT.

The **Vale of Pennant** is a romantic spot 6 miles north of Criccieth. Through it flows the upper part of the Dwyfawr. At the upper end are Hebog, Llwyd Mawr, and other mountains of Snowdonia. It is a habitat of rare ferns, including the parsley fern.

Follow the Carnarvon road for about a mile; take the first by-road on the right; follow it through the white iron gate and as far as Ymwlich lodge. There pass through a small gate on the left of the lodge, and ascend the hill. At the top go through the farmyard on the right and pass the back of Ymwlich. On getting to the main road, turn to the left, and at **Dolbenmaen Church**, about a mile farther, turn to the right, and the road leads straight to **Pennant**.

EXCURSIONS FROM CRICCIETH.

A char-à-banc runs daily in the season from the town to Beddgelert *via* the Aberglaslyn Pass. Return fare, 4s. Tickets for the rail-and-road excursions organized by the Cambrian Railways Co. are issued from Criccieth.

Popular excursions by water are to the Black Rock and Caves, by rowing or sailing boat, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, by yacht to Pwllheli, 9 miles; to Abersoch, 15 miles; and to St. Tudwal's Island and Lighthouse, 15 miles.

PORTMADOC AND BORTH-Y-GEST.

Access.—Portmadoc has a station on the coast line of the Cambrian Railways which connects at Afon Wen (9 miles) with the L. & N.W.R., and at Dolgelley (about 30 miles) with the G.W.R. The *Festiniog Narrow Gauge Railway* has one terminus at Portmadoc and the other at Blaenau Festiniog (14 miles), where it connects with the L. & N.W.R. and the G.W.R.

Angling.—See Appendix for anglers.

Bathing.—On a firm sandy beach at Borth-y-Gest, where tents can be hired.

Boating.—In the Glaslyn estuary. Rowing and sailing boats are on hire at Borth-y-Gest.

Bus.—A motor bus runs between Portmadoc and Beddgelert. Single fare, 2s.; return, 3s. 6d.

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Golf.—A sporting 18-hole course. Club-house and a professional. Subsoil sandy; bunkers natural. Magnificent views of Cardigan Bay. Visitors: 1s. 6d. a day; 5s. a week; 12s. 6d. a month.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Inquiries may be addressed to the Secretary, Improvement Association, Portmadoc. A penny stamp should be enclosed.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. John's, Portmadoc, 11.30 and 3.15.

Church Room, Portmadoc, 6.15.

Tremadoc Church, 11.

English Presbyterian, 10.30 and 6.

Calvinistic Methodist, Congregational, Wesleyan, Baptist and Roman Catholic, with services in Welsh.

St. Cyngar, Borth-y-Gest.

Post Office.—Head Office opposite the Town Hall, Portmadoc. Postal, telegraph and telephone business, week-days, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sale of stamps, etc., on Sundays, 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon; telegraph business, 8.30 to 10 a.m. Sub-offices; at junction of High Street and Station Road, Portmadoc, and at Borth-y-Gest.

Sea-fishing.—Mackerel, whiting, pollack and gurnet are plentiful from July to September. Large bass and plaice are caught with rod and line off the rocks at Borth-y-Gest.

PORTMADOC stands at the entrance to the Vale of Madoc, which opens into Cardigan Bay. It is mainly a business centre, with well-built houses, wide streets, a pretty church, good hotels and a busy harbour. Southward it commands a splendid view of Cardigan Bay and the Merionethshire mountains.

Little more than a hundred years ago, the site of the town and also a large adjacent district were occupied by "bare sandbanks on which the cormorant perched himself to swallow his catch, and over which the western wave rolled unobstructed." The great change in the character of the tract

was brought about by Mr. William Alexander Madocks, who, having acquired an estate extending up the Vale of Madoc, came to reside in the district. Having determined to reclaim that part of his estate which was an unproductive marsh, overflowed by the sea every tide, he began operations in the year 1800 by building an embankment across the estuary. The barrier was carried up the Glaslyn Valley for a couple of miles, and nearly two thousand acres of land were secured. On the western side of the reclaimed tract he founded the town called after himself. **Tremadoc**—Madoc Town—a mile from Portmadoc. Next he built a stone embankment known as Portmadoc Embankment, which occupied from 300 to 400 men for three years. The year after its completion the central portion was broken down by a great storm. The poet Shelley was living near Tremadoc at the time and took a leading part in a canvass made in North Wales for financial aid in making good the damage. The Embankment cost over £100,000 and reclaimed 7,000 acres of land. In 1821, Parliament consented to the construction of a harbour at the place, and that was the beginning of Portmadoc.

A little over half a mile south of Portmadoc, in a picturesque cove in the Glaslyn estuary, lies—

Borth-y-Gest,

or Borth Bay, a pretty village watering-place with about 500 inhabitants. It faces south and is warmed and freshened by south-westerly breezes, while it is well sheltered from the north and east winds. Firm sands, cliffs and open breezy downs are among its natural advantages, while boating, bathing, trout and salmon fishing, sea-fishing and golf, are recreations for which it offers excellent facilities. Four miles of firm sand skirted by sand-dunes stretch from Borth-y-Gest, to Criccieth. To get to the village from Portmadoc station, go down the main street to the town clock and there turn to the right.

Portmadoc is the terminus of—

The Festiniog Toy Railway,

a ride along which is always a favourite excursion with tourists. It forms the most direct route between the seaside resorts on the North and those on the South and West coasts of North Wales.

As the pioneer of all narrow-gauge railways, this little line is specially interesting. It is a single line of 1 foot 11½ inches

gauge, extending from Portmadoc to the great slate quarries of the Festiniog mountains. Its length is $13\frac{1}{4}$ miles, exclusive of branches about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles long, leading to Dinas and Minffordd. The main line rises 700 feet, the gradients being continuous, but variable. The least is 1 in 186, while the steepest are 1 in 68-69, 1 in 50 and 1 in 36 on the branches.

Traversing a rugged but most picturesque tract of country—now creeping along the steep hill-side, hundreds of feet above the valley; now crossing deep ravines on narrow embankments, or rather walls of dry stone, some of them 60 feet in height; and then again threading its way through cuttings in the rock, only to burst anew into the open and disclose a fresh panorama—the line presents ever-changing features of interest. Throughout almost its entire course it consists of a series of curves, varying in radius from 28 chains to as little as $1\frac{3}{4}$ chains, some of the curves of the latter radius being 200 feet in length. There are two tunnels on the line, one 60 yards and the other 730 yards in length. Between the termini there are seven stations, all of which give access to fine scenery or to some object of interest. The stations have no raised platforms, the lowness of the carriages rendering this unnecessary. There is no night traffic, and no Sunday trains are run. The engines are specially designed for the steep gradients and curves of the line. On some parts of the line the train is serpentine on three or more curves at once, the different portions of the train moving towards almost all points of the compass. Riding in one of the last wagons of such a train, it is at times difficult for a stranger to realize the fact that the engine which he sees moving along the other side of a ravine, in a direction almost exactly opposite to that in which he is travelling, can possibly have any connection with the vehicle in which he is sitting.

For the sake of the view the carriages with seats running lengthwise and facing the Vale should be chosen, or the right-hand seats of the other coaches.

Leaving Portmadoc by the "Toy" Railway we cross the estuary by the great embankment shutting out the sea, southward of the viaduct by which the Cambrian coast line is carried.

As far as **Minffordd**, the first station on the line from Portmadoc, the line is near the coast; then the course is inland and upward. Near the station we cross the Cambrian Railway, the traffic with which is interchanged here. The next stopping place is **Penrhyn** (Penrhyn Deudraeth in full). Beyond this the line runs almost along the brink of a precipice, on the edge of the glen of **Tan-y-Bwlch**, a beautiful resort for families and tourists during the summer season. The *Oakeley Arms*

Hotel is situated in the valley, in the centre of much attractive scenery. To the charming grounds of the mansion of *Tan-y-Bwlch* visitors are allowed access by tickets, obtained at the hotel. *Tan-y-Bwlch* station is 400 feet above sea-level, and is a long mile by road from the hotel. The walk will be shortened by entering a path close to the station. The road to the hotel goes on to the village of **Maentwrog** and to the Raven and Rhaiadr Du Waterfalls.

From *Tan-y-Bwlch* station also two roads lead off on the left to **Beddgelert** ($8\frac{1}{2}$ miles). One is a mountain road, by which can be made the—

Ascent of Moelwyn (2,527 feet), a mountain 4 miles from *Tan-y-Bwlch*. A rough glen introduces the pedestrian to the base of the mountain, which stands in wild and gloomy surroundings. There is no difficulty in the approach—a slightly ascending gradient up a lonely valley. But the hill itself, particularly the upper part, is steep; and owing to the slate *débris* and shale, the ascent is toilsome till the climber is about half-way up. The view is very fine; wilder and more solemn than that from Snowdon. The road over the mountain joins the high road again about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from Pont Aberglaslyn.

Shortly after leaving *Tan-y-Bwlch* station, Festiniog may be plainly seen on the right-front. Indeed, the finest view of the Vale of Festiniog and of the river *Dwyrdd* is obtained before reaching **Dduallt**, the next station.

From **Dduallt** station a path leads to the gorge of the *Cymmerau* and along the *Teigl Dingle* to the **Cymmerau Falls** and **Roman Bridge**. Thence the road leads past **Dolwen Waterfalls** and **Rustic Bridge** to **Tan-y-Grisiau**, the next station to **Dduallt**. This route is through one of the most charming scenes in the district.

The best ascent of **Moelwyn** can also be made from *Tan-y-Grisiau* station. There is an easy route by the road leading past **Llyn Cwmorthin** and the **Rhosydd Quarry**, thence by path to the summit.

Passengers who continue in the train may well be puzzled by the multiplicity of stations near the terminus. The train first reaches—

Blaenau Festiniog,

where passengers change for *Bettws-y-Coed*, *Llandudno*, and other stations on the London and North-Western Railway. A short distance farther the train stops at a platform where those alight who want the Great Western Railway, for

Festiniog, Bala, and places in the Valley of the Dee. A little beyond is **Duffws**, the terminus of the "Toy" line, at an elevation of 700 feet above sea-level.

Duffws station and the other stopping-places named are all in Blaenau Festiniog, a place which was called into existence by the slate mines.

Behind Duffws station stands the precipice of **Duffws**. This can be easily climbed from Church Street or from Rhiw. From the summit an extensive view is obtained of the country as far as Harlech.

Blaenau Festiniog is in the midst of the far-famed **Festiniog Slate Quarries**, and is surrounded by the Manod and Moelwyn ranges. Through the courtesy of the proprietors, tourists can visit the quarries and are allowed to see block-splitting and the making of slates.

A conveyance runs from Duffws station through Festiniog to the **Cynfael Falls**. Return fare, 1s. 6d.

OTHER EXCURSIONS FROM PORTMADOC.

Portmadoc is the point at which the railway is left in the course of several excursions organized by the Cambrian Railways.

To Beddgelert. ¹ A motor char-à-banc leaves the station three times daily. The route, both going and returning, is *viâ* Tremadoc and the Pass of Aberglaslyn (6 miles from Portmadoc). Beddgelert is reached in 30 minutes, and the char-à-banc leaves in time to connect at Portmadoc with convenient return trains.

There is also a motor 'bus to and from Beddgelert daily. Single fare, 2s.; return, 3s. 6d.

To Snowdon *viâ* Beddgelert. A motor char-à-banc leaves Portmadoc station about 10.45 a.m., and goes through the Pass of Aberglaslyn to Beddgelert, which is reached at 11.15. After allowing time to view Gelert's Grave, and for luncheon, a motor or horse conveyance takes on passengers at 12.15 to Snowdon Station, from which the ascent of Snowdon can be made. The distance to the summit is nearly 3 miles. The coach leaves Snowdon station at 4.20 and 5.30 for Beddgelert, and that village at 6.45 for Portmadoc.

Snowdon Circular Tour. Passengers are conveyed to Snowdon station, as above, and are there transferred to

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,

PORTMADOC HARBOUR AND THE SLATE WHARVES.

[reigate.]



[Reigate.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd..]

THE TOY RAILWAY AT TAN-Y-BWLCH.

the *North Wales Narrow-Gauge Railway*, on which, in diminutive carriages, they travel northward to Dinas Junction, and then continue the journey by the London and North-Western Railway southward to Afon Wen and thence by the Cambrian coast line to their starting point.

Llanberis Circular Tour. A motor ride of about 52 miles.

To Bettws-y-Coed. A motor ride of about 54 miles. Bettws-y-Coed, the Swallow Falls, Fairy Glen and Capel Curig, seen during this tour, are described in our *Guide to the Northern Section of North Wales*, as are also Bethesda and Bangor in the excursion to—

Bethesda, a circular motor ride of about 70 miles.

About 3 miles east of Portmadoc is—

Penrhyn Deudraeth,

which receives its quota of summer visitors, being central for many pleasant excursions, and exceptionally well placed for journeys by rail. In addition to Penrhyn Deudraeth station on the Cambrian line, the parish contains Minffordd station, where the Cambrian and the Festiniog Narrow-Gauge lines come together. The tide ascends the estuary of the Dwyryd and adds to a very fine view of the Merioneth mountains in the south. At Penrhyn Deudraeth the railway is left in the course of the following excursion organized by the Cambrian Railways Co. :—

To Beddgelert. The coach leaves about 10.30, going through the Vale of Llanfrothen, a route in great favour with George Borrow. It crosses the Aberglaslyn Bridge, and passes through the Pass of Aberglaslyn to Beddgelert, arriving about 12 noon. The return is through the pass and then along the Portmadoc road, with the River Glaslyn in view nearly all the way. Passengers leave the coach at Portmadoc station, which is reached in time for trains for all stations.

By arrangement with the Penrhyn Deudraeth coachman, parties of six and upwards can continue the trip past Dinas Lake to Gwynant Lake, at the foot of Snowdon, on payment of 1s. each.

FESTINIOG.

Bus.—Between Festiniog and Blaenau Festiniog Station.

Fishing.—See Appendix for Anglers.

Golf.—A 9-hole course about half a mile from the station. Day, 1s.; week, 2s. 6d. Annual subscription, gentlemen, 10s.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

FESTINIOG is a village delightfully situated at the head of the lovely Vale through which the "Toy Railway" runs. Said Lord Lyttleton, "with the woman one loves one might pass an age in this vale, and think it a day." Splendid mountain walks can be enjoyed in all directions, and there are several waterfalls in the locality worth viewing. The **Church**, a conspicuous feature in any view of the village, is built in the ancient style of English architecture. It stands on the edge of a cliff overlooking the Vale.

WALKS FROM FESTINIOG. TO THE CYNFAL FALLS.

The **Cynfal** (*cunval*) **Falls** are in a romantic glen, and only about half a mile south of the station. One fall is 300 yards above, the other as far below a small bridge.

In the bed of the river, between the lower cataract and the bridge, is a tall columnar rock, called **Hugh Lloyd's Pulpit**. Tradition declares that Hugh Lloyd, a reputed magician of the time of James I, used it as a rostrum from which to deliver his incantations.

Not far beyond this the path crosses the stream, and by continuing up it the pedestrian will reach the view-point called the **Goat's Bridge**, or the natural bridge, a slab connecting the bank with a boulder in the bed of the stream. Fifty yards farther is a view-point of the higher fall.

TO BEDDAU GWRY ARDUDWY.

Follow the Bala road for about 2 miles, and then turn to the left up **Sarn Helen**, a part of the great Roman road through Wales. The site of the "graves of the Men of Ardudwy" is about half a mile from the main road. All trace of them has disappeared. They consisted of between twenty and thirty oblong mounds, from two to three feet high, every one having a small stone at each end. Tradition affirms

that they were the graves of "warriors bold," who, emulating the conduct of the Romans of old, made an incursion into the Vale of Clwyd (Denbighshire), forcibly tore the women from their families, and returned with them in triumph to their own country. Like the Sabines, the outraged men followed "the spoil-encumbered enemy," overtook them at this spot, where they "fought and conquered," defeating the men of Ardudwy with great slaughter. But the encounter had a still more tragic result. The abducted women had conceived a passion for their captors and, rather than survive their loss, drowned themselves in a lake still known as **Llyn-Morwynion** ("The Lake of the Maidens").

TO THE RHAIADR-CWM.

The Rhaiadr-Cwm cataracts are $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Festiniog, along the Bala road, from which they are visible. They can also be reached by foot-path *via* Pont Newydd, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Festiniog.

To get to **Pont Newydd**, turn to the right from the Bala road, beyond the railway. Having arrived at the bridge cross it and turn to the right. The road keeps near the stream and in about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles passes a farm called *Cwm Cynfal*. The **Rhaiadr-Cwm Fall** is not far from it.

TO TOMEN-Y-MUR.

This great attraction for antiquaries is $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Festiniog. Proceed to *Maentwrog Road* station, on the Great Western line. Follow the road for about a quarter of a mile to a schoolhouse, where turn to the left, and then take the second cart road on the left (about 350 yards from the previous turning), in a few minutes reaching **Tomen-y-Mur**, a Roman or British mound, about 25 feet high, on a grassy knoll behind a farmstead. Stories connected with it are in the Mabinogion Legends.

TO RHAIADR DU AND THE RAVEN FALL.

The former (the Cataract Fall) is $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles and the latter $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Festiniog. They can also be visited from Tan-y-Bwlch, on the Narrow-Gauge Railway (3 to 4 miles), or from the Cambrian station at Talsarnau (5 to 6 miles).

From Maentwrog Road Station proceed to the schoolhouse mentioned above, and there take the road to Maentwrog Uchaf (or Gellilydan). In about a quarter of a mile turn to the left; half a mile farther, to the right; and then, after a short quarter of a mile, to the left again. A half-mile from the last turning brings the pedestrian to a cottage and to a steep descent to the glen in which the falls are situated. After descending for a short distance, pass over a stile in a wall on the left, and go a few steps down through a wood;

then follow a track to the left, which leads up to **Rhaiadr Du**, a charming scene.

The **Raven Fall** is a short distance lower down the glen. The scenery is delightful, but the fall is not remarkable.

To make the trip circular, regain the track which was left to reach the stile in the wall, descend along it towards the west, and in less than half a mile reach the high-road a mile south-west of—

Maentwrog

(*man-too-rog*), a village 3 miles from Festiniog, in the most romantic part of the picturesque Vale. The place derives its name from a large stone in the churchyard, Maen Twrog, "the Stone of Twrog." Twrog is said to have been a British giant who died about the year 610. He threw the stone, used perhaps as a heathen altar, down from the height above to the church; the imprint of his finger and thumb still remain to convince the sceptical. The present **Church** was built in 1814 on the site of an earlier structure.

The Rev. Edmund Prys, one of the most eminent Welsh poets of his time, was rector of this parish and Archdeacon of Merioneth. He was the author of the metrical psalms used in Welsh churches, and assisted Bishop Morgan in translating the Bible into Welsh. He died in 1623, and was buried in Maentwrog Church.

From Maentwrog, a walk of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles will take the tourist to Tan-y-Bwlch station, from which the return to Festiniog can be made by rail, *viâ* Blaenau Festiniog. But the more direct way is to follow the high-road to Festiniog, which is only 3 miles from Maentwrog.

THE ASCENT OF MANOD (2,166 ft.).

Take the Blaenau road as far as *Wynne's Arms Hotel*. There turn to the right, and the mountain is seen in front, or, better still, continue along the road to Bethania crossing, and ascend the incline, which is close by.

THROUGH CEUNANT SYCH.

Take the Blaenau road for a short quarter of a mile, then turn to the left, down the valley. Continuing, the visitor reaches a small cottage at the junction of two glens. About 50 yards farther is a path on the right leading to the Roman Bridge and Cymmerau Falls. Still farther along the main road down the valley is an opening in the wall on the left. Here is seen a path leading down to a picturesque bridge over a stream. This path will lead the visitor back through a farmyard to Festiniog.

SNOWDONIA.

ABERGLASLYN Pass, Beddgelert, Llanberis and Snowdon are familiar as household words to lovers of Wild Wales. Indeed, they *are* household words among visitors to North Wales, for from the principal resorts along the coast-line of the Cambrian Railways, as well as those on the north coast of the Principality, the places they represent are included in excursions by motor or rail, or a combination of both. There is no grander approach to Snowdonia than through—

Aberglaslyn Pass,

which forms about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the road between Tremadoc and Beddgelert. The scenery, which can rightly be described as sub-Alpine in character, centres in the bridge, the famous **Pont Aberglaslyn**, a single-arched ivy-clad structure ascribed to Satanic agency. The stream flows far below in a rocky channel, on each side of which rise fir-clothed cliffs several hundred feet high.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther along the road is—

Beddgelert.

Access. ¹—Coaches run to Snowdon station to meet every train. Fare, 1s. single, 1s. 6d. return. A motor char-à-banc runs to meet every train at Portmadoc during the summer, and every week-day, except Tuesday and Thursday, between Beddgelert and Carnarvon. A motor 'bus also runs twice daily between Portmadoc and Beddgelert. Single fare, 2s.; return, 3s. 6d.

Occasionally motor chars-à-bancs run to Beddgelert from Pwllheli, Barmouth, Llandudno, Colwyn Bay and Rhyl.

Angling.—See Appendix for Anglers.

Distances.—Snowdon Station, 4 miles; Bettws-y-Coed, $17\frac{1}{2}$; Portmadoc, 8; Carnarvon, 13.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Beddgelert stands in a beautiful tract of meadows, at the junction of three vales, near the confluence of the Glaslyn and the Colwyn, and amid lofty mountains, woods and murmuring streams. It possesses two features of great interest, apart from the attractive surrounding scenery. One is its **Church**, in the Early Pointed style which was, in days gone by, attached to a Priory of Augustinian canons, a rest-

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.

ing place for pilgrims journeying to and from Ireland. The other feature is the **Tomb of Gelert**, Llewelyn's faithful dog, from which the place is said to have received its name.

We all know the legend. Gelert, a hound presented to Llewelyn by King John, stayed at home one day while the prince and his train were hunting. On his master's return the dog ran joyfully to meet him, wagging his tail, but covered with blood. The prince, being alarmed, hastened to the nursery, and found the cradle in which the child had lain, overturned and the ground stained with blood. Imagining that the greyhound had killed the child, he immediately drew his sword and slew him; but on turning up the cradle, he found the child alive under it, together with the dead body of a wolf.

It seems cruel to spoil such a pretty story, but truth must be told. About fifty years ago a writer in a Welsh magazine showed that the legend was not founded on fact, and the Rev. D. E. Jenkins, in a work published in 1899, entitled *Bedd Gelert; Its Facts, Fairies, and Folk-lore*, gives wider publicity to its origin. He shows that the story, so far as it has local colour, is a growth of the nineteenth century; that before 1798 it was unknown in the neighbourhood; and that it was, in all probability, imported from South Wales by a certain David Prichard, who migrated north and became the first landlord of the Royal Goat Hotel at Beddgelert. Prichard came stocked with good stories from the south, and among them was that of "the man who killed his greyhound." He it was who fitted this particular folk-tale to the scene, and the dog to the name Gelert; he who told the story to Spencer, the author of the familiar ballad; and he who, with the artistic completeness of the born myth-maker, aided by the parish clerk and another, raised the stone now exhibited on the spot known as the grave.

Beddgelert is the centre for many charming walks, of which the chief is that past Gelert's Grave and along the river to Pont Aberglaslyn.

Near Beddgelert, on the west side, is **Moel Hebog** (the Hill of the Hawk), where Owen Glendower hid himself when pursued by the English. The ascent commences close to the Goat Hotel. The mountain is 2,566 feet in height, and the summit can be reached from Beddgelert in from an hour and a half to two hours.

BEDDGELERT TO LLANBERIS.

Leaving Beddgelert, we pass over the Colwyn, and proceeding to the right, begin to ascend a lovely valley to Pen-y-Gwryd. On each side of the road are high mountains, and

the Glaslyn dashes down the valley. In front is the summit of **Moel Siabod**, and on the left is **Aran**, one of the peaks of Snowdon. We pass, at a distance, a wooded eminence called **Dinas Emrys**, to which, legend says, Vortigern retired and Merlin came to his aid. Then, less than 2 miles from Beddgelert, we reach **Llyn-y Ddinas**, a small but beautiful lake, from the end of which is a fine view of Moel Hebog. A little farther along the road we have a glimpse of the summit of Snowdon.

After crossing the Glaslyn, we keep up **Nant Gwynant** to the beautiful **Llyn Gwynant**, 4 miles from Beddgelert. Rising out of the water is *Gallt-y-Wenallt*, a rocky shoulder of Snowdon. We skirt the lake, which is about a mile in length, and then, proceeding uphill for nearly another 3 miles, through most attractive scenery, reach **Pen-y-Gwryd**, about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert. The *Pen-y-Gwryd Hotel* is the only house in the locality. The site is 907 feet above sea-level, at the junction of the road by which we have travelled with the Pass of Lanberis and the road to Capel Curig. In the vicinity one of the routes to the summit of Snowdon begins. The locality is referred to in Kingsley's *Two Years Ago*. On one occasion the novelist, accompanied by Tom Taylor and the author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, stayed at the house. The three friends amused themselves by writing some hybrid verses in the visitors' book. Unfortunately, the pages they used have been stolen.

From Pen-y-Gwryd the route takes a fresh direction, but continues to rise for another mile. It bends round *Y Foelberfedd*, a "cub" of Glyder-fawr, and then takes a north-westerly direction, which it maintains for about 10 miles. A mile from Pen-y-Gwryd we reach a level spot appropriately named **Gorphwysfa**, "the resting-place," but more frequently called Pen-y-Pass. Here stands an *Hotel*, 1,169 feet above the sea.

From "the resting-place" we begin the descent of the celebrated—

Pass of Llanberis,

the finest carriage mountain-road in Wales. The precipitous and craggy sides of the noble mountains press closely on each other and shut in the narrow pass. Shattered masses of every form, which have fallen from the heights, lie in strange confusion, and amid them the *Seiont*, rushing and roaring, hastens its descent to the head of Llyn Peris.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Gorphwysfa Hotel, on the right-hand side of the road, is an enormous fragment of rock that has fallen from the side of Glyder-fawr. It is popularly called the *Cromlech Stone*. Resting upon other fragments, it leaves a cavity beneath, which an old woman named Hetty was wont to occupy.

Some two miles farther we reach the picturesque village of **Nant Peris**, formerly known as **Old Llanberis**, and soon afterwards are running by the side of **Llyn Peris**, on the opposite shore of which are the Dinorwic slate-quarries. Quarrying has been going on here for two centuries, and the workmen have climbed two thousand feet up the mountain. Between 2,000 and 3,000 men are on the pay roll. Then we get abreast of the remains of **Dolbadarn Castle**. They consist only of a round tower, which probably does not date back many centuries, but the site is said to have been held by the Prince of North Wales in the sixth century. Beyond the ruin we arrive by a park-like approach at the *Royal Victoria Hotel*, in modern Llanberis.

At the foot of the hotel grounds is the lower terminus of the Mountain Railway.

Llanberis.

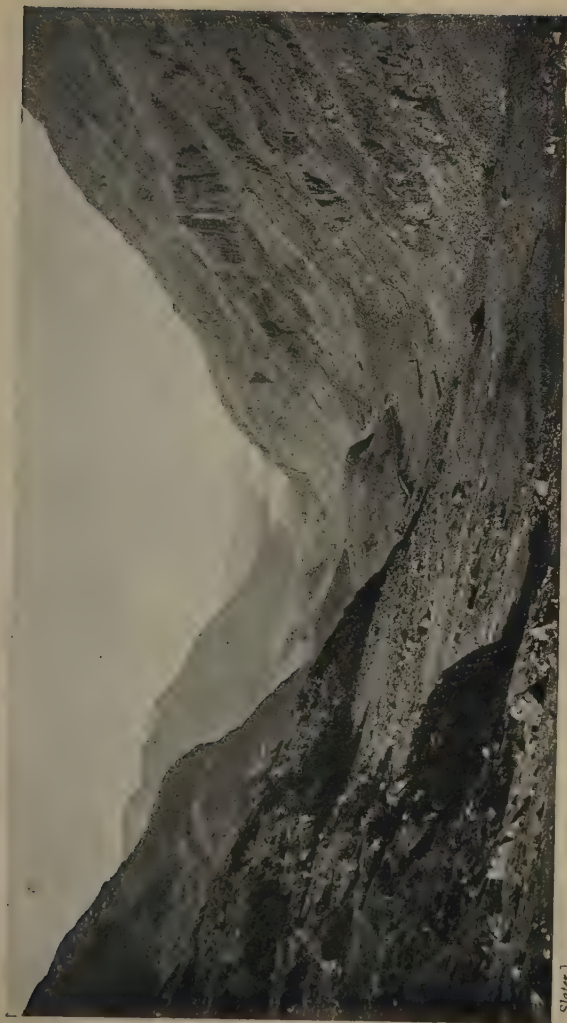
Coach from Llanberis.—To Beddgelert, 5s.; return fare, 7s. 6d.

Golf.—Victoria Links. A 9-hole course between the L. & N.W. station and the Royal Victoria Hotel. Visitors' fees: day, 1s. 6d.; week, 3s. 6d.; month, 7s. 6d.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Distances. (By Rail.)		
	MILES.	MILES.
Bangor . . .	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	Chester . . . 77
Carnarvon . . .	9	Conway . . . 32
		Llandudno . . . 36
		London . . . 257
(By Road.)		
	MILES.	MILES.
Bettws-y-Coed . . .	16	Capel Curig . . . 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Station . . .	16	Carnarvon . . . 8
Beddgelert . . .	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pen-y-Gwryd . . . 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Portmadoc . . . 22
		Pwllheli, <i>via</i> Pen-y- Gwryd . . . 35

By Llanberis is meant the modern village of that name. It contains the London and North-Western railway station and the lower terminal station of the Mountain Railway to the summit of Snowdon. As has already been noted, modern Llanberis is a good two miles from the old village, now called **Nant Peris**. It is a common centre of the coach routes from Bettws-y-Coed, Bangor, Carnarvon, and Beddgelert, and the quarters chosen by the great majority of tourists who make the ascent of Snowdon, the Glyders, the Elidrys, and Moel Eilio. The village is situated on the western side of **Llyn Padarn**, a lake 2 miles in length. This lake is connected



[Darlington.]

THE PASS OF LLANBERIS.

Slater,]

[Reigate.

THE UPPER LAKE, LLANBERIS, AND SNOWDON.

F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]



with **Llyn Peris** by a pretty stream. Boating can be enjoyed on both lakes, and lakes and river alike afford sport for the angler. The fishing in the upper lake, Llyn Peris, is the property of the Snowdon Mountain Railway and Hotels Co. It is free to visitors at the Company's Hotels—*Victoria* and *Padarn Villa*. The lower lake, noted for char, is free to all. The Seiont contains trout, salmon and sewin. It is preserved by the Carnarvonshire Fishing Association. At the northern end of Llyn Padarn is a picturesque stone bridge leading to a Roman camp at Dinas Dinorwic, about a mile off. About 200 yards from the Victoria Hotel, and within its grounds, are the remains of **Dolbadarn Castle**.

Half a mile south-west from the Castle is the **Fall of Ceunant Mawr**, the height of which exceeds 60 feet. It is very effective after heavy rain.

LLANBERIS TO CARNARVON

Via CWM-Y-GLO.

The road runs along the southern side of Llyn Padarn in company with the railway, which is crossed at Cwm-y-glo station a short distance beyond the lake, and then our route is through a rugged, poorly cultivated track to **Pontrug**, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Llanberis and $3\frac{1}{2}$ short of Carnarvon.

CARNARVON.

Bathing.—Open air sea-water baths.

		Distances. (By Rail.)			
	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bangor	8½	Liverpool	84	London	247½
Birmingham . .	143	Llanberis	9	Manchester . . .	108
Chester	68	Llandudno	27	Snowdon Station	12½
(By Road.)					
Beddgelert . . .	13	Capel Curig . . .	18	Pen-y-Gwryd . .	14
Bettws-y-Coed . .	23½	Llanberis	7½	Snowdon Ranger .	7½

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Ferry.—There are several passages each way daily between Carnarvon and Tal-y-Voel, in Anglesey. See current time-table.

Fishing.—See Appendix for Anglers.

Free Library.—Bangor Street.

Golf.—A 9-hole course about a mile from the town on the shore of the Strait. Visitors' fees: day, 1s. 6d.; week, 5s.; month, 10s. 6d.

Hotels.—See Introduction.

Newspapers.—*North Wales Observer and Express*, *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald*.

Places of Worship and Hours of Sunday Services;—

Parish Church, "Llanbeblig," 10 and 6; *St. Mary's*, Church Street, 10 and 6; *Christ Church*, North Road, 11 and 6.30; and *St. David's*, Twt Hill, 10.30 and 6.

Roman Catholic (St. Helen's), Twt Hill, 10.30 and 6.30.

Moriah, Siloh, and *Engedi Calvinistic Methodist*; *Salcm Congregational*; *Ebenezer Wesleyan* and *Caersalem Baptist*, 10 and 6; *Castle Street English Wesleyan* and *Castle Square English Presbyterian*, 10.30 and 6.

Population (1911), 9,119.

Post Office.—The Castle Square.

Regatta.—A three-days' regatta in August. Yachts from many parts compete.

CARNARVON (*Caer-ar-Fon*, "the fortress opposite Anglesey") stands just within the western entrance to the Menai Strait, at the mouth of the river Seiont. It is the ancient "metropolis of the hills"—the chief town in that mountainous stronghold known as *Eryri*. Carnarvon is the modern representative of the British fortress *Caer Seiont*, and of the Roman military station, *Segontium*, and in position, beauty and historic associations there are few towns, if any, in Wales to compare with it. To judge Carnarvon by the view obtained from its streets is to do it a great wrong. To

see the town aright, and so be able to carry away an impression of beauty and charm, one must go to the long, narrow quay, facing the low Anglesey shore.

"There the Menai Strait widens beyond the wooded hill of Coed Helen, on the Carnarvonshire shore, to the sandy warren of the royal borough of Newborough on the Anglesey coast, and some 3 miles away are the tumbling breakers on the narrow entrance of the bar. On your left, as you look towards the bar, are the old, grey walls of the town, still an unbroken rampart, with their squat round towers of enormous girth, laboriously built upon arches over what was, in Norman times, swampy and tide-swept ground. At one corner is the tower of St. Mary's Church, where Edward of Carnarvon, the first English Prince of Wales, was christened. About the middle of the wall on this side is the mediæval Porth yr Aur, the "Gate of Gold" that served as the old watergate of the town and is still used. And at the farther end rises the great Eagle Tower and the Castle itself against the soft green background of the Coed Helen trees. It might be a view in the Middle Ages, and one may be fairly sure that during the last six centuries or so it has changed very little."

Of the thousands of persons who annually visit Carnarvon, the greater number are attracted by the Castle, but the town is an excellent centre for excursions by land or sea, and especially for tours through Snowdonia.

Carnarvon Castle

(Admission, fourpence.)

is half a mile from the railway station, from which it is approached by turning to the right and keeping straight on to Castle Square, with its *Statue of Sir Hugh Owen* and its *Fountain* commemorating the opening of the waterworks. Here the ancient fortress will be seen on the right. With the exception of that at Alnwick, in Northumberland, it is "the finest castle in Great Britain." Dr. Johnson, who visited it in 1774, observed in his diary: "The castle is an edifice of stupendous magnitude and strength. To survey the place would take much time—I did not think there had been such buildings: it surpassed my ideas." In 1907 the shell of the structure was repaired, and in 1911 the walls were further restored and strengthened. The walls enclose an area of about 3 acres, and are from 7 to 9 ft. thick. The erection of the fortress was begun by Edward I in 1283, and completed by his son. It was twice

unsuccessfully besieged by Owen Glendower. During the Civil War it was garrisoned for the King, and, after changing hands more than once, was finally captured by the forces of the Parliament in 1646. In 1660 a warrant was issued for its demolition, but the order was never executed. The Castle was the scene on July 13, 1911, of the historic Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

The entrance is at the **King's Gate**, beneath a beautiful and lofty archway, over which is a statue of Edward I or Edward II. In front of the gateway are two Spanish guns. On each side of the archway are portcullis grooves. In the towers flanking the gateway are the guardrooms and other apartments, while over the archway are an oratory and a small room used in raising and lowering the drawbridge.

Turning to the right in the courtyard we pass the site of the kitchen and come to the **Well Tower**, partly rebuilt in 1893-4. Next to it are the remains of four apartments, and then, guarding the mouth of the Seiont, is a massive pentagonal tower, called the **Eagle Tower**, through having upon it the figure of an eagle, said by some to have been brought from the ruins of the neighbouring Roman station of Segontium; but an eagle was one of Edward's crests. This majestic tower rises to the height of 124 ft., has three fine turrets, and its battlements display a mutilated series of heads, wearing armour of the time of Edward II. Access to the summit is gained by 158 stone steps. By taking the first turn to the left in our ascent, we come to the **Queen's Oratory**. Passing through it and proceeding along a corridor, we reach a small dark room, measuring 12 ft. by 8 ft., in which Edward II is said to have been born. It contains a stained-glass window, exhibiting the Prince of Wales's feathers.

By keeping to the left from the Eagle Tower, we come to the **Queen's Tower**. A door close to the curtain-wall gives access to a passage that leads to a corridor in the thickness of the wall. The windows opened into the **Banqueting Hall**, which was 100 feet long, 45 ft. broad, and about 50 ft. high. The corridor leads to the **Chamberlain's Tower**. Coming into the courtyard and re-entering the Chamberlain's tower by another door, we reach the **Black Tower**, which contains the smallest rooms in the castle, and was probably the prison. From this tower we go to the entrance on the east side, called **Queen Eleanor's Gate**, because that Queen is said by tradition to have entered the Castle by it. Tradition also says it was here that the infant Prince was presented to the people, and here accordingly the

present Prince of Wales was "presented" on the occasion of his investiture in July, 1911.

From the Queen's Gate we come to a beautiful turret which commanded a hillock that formerly occupied the site of the Castle Square. The name of the neighbouring tower at the angle is unknown. From this tower a guard-room extended to the next tower, which contains large cellars and three good storeys, and was probably the Granary Tower. Within it is a curious arch above a deep well, which was probably a grain store. Guardrooms were situated between the Granary Tower and the King's Gate. The gun in the Castle yard was captured at Sebastopol in 1855.

The Walls,

which formerly enclosed the whole town, are now around only a small part of it. They had originally two principal gates; others were added as convenience required. The circuit of the walls can conveniently be begun by turning to the right on leaving the Castle. In this way we are led past the river-front of the fortress, and beyond the Eagle Tower reach a promenade running at the foot of the western wall.

The **Town Church**, or St. Mary's, at the north-western angle, was formerly the garrison chapel. When it was no longer required for its original purpose, it was given to the Corporation, by whom it was mortgaged. Having been forfeited, the mortgagee presented it to the Vicar. The arms on the gate are a reminiscence of the Corporation's ownership. The windows which face outward are, of course, modern, being in the town wall. The building suffered much from the restorer in 1820. The presentation of the east window by the Carnarvonshire Militia, when disbanded in 1907, led to the thorough and reverent restoration of the church in 1910.

From the Church the wall begins its eastward course. Its northern portion crosses High Street, at the top of which is the **East Gate**, surmounted by the **Guildhall**.

Twt Hill,

a rocky eminence overlooking the town, unfolds a grand panorama. The hill is near the station, and is approached by a lane a few yards on the townward side of the Royal Hotel. By the side of the lane is an **Eisteddfod Pavilion**, capable of seating 7,000 persons.

The **Aber Swing Bridge** (toll $\frac{1}{2}d.$), at the mouth of the river,

a few yards south of the Eagle Tower of the Castle, gives access to the open-air baths, the golf links, and two of the most pleasant walks in the neighbourhood of Carnarvon.

The path to the right after crossing the bridge leads in rather more than a mile to the disused **Church of Llanfaglan**, a small and ancient edifice, with Roman bricks in its walls.

By turning to the left immediately after crossing the bridge, the visitor reaches the **Seiont Bridge**, which should be crossed. Then he has the choice of continuing along the river bank until the Llanbeblig Road is reached, or of turning into the **Public Park**, which contains a lake.

The Roman City of Segontium,

was situated south-east of the present Castle Square. A portion of its wall stands at right angles to South Road. By the thoroughfare to the right of the Post Office the visitor passes along Segontium Terrace and Love Lane. Nearly at the end of the latter is a school, where it is necessary to turn to the left. A few steps lead to the main road, and facing one, on the opposite side of the road, is the end of the wall, showing through the modern wall rising above it. Nearly all the old wall is covered with ivy.

Segontium is said to have been the birthplace of Constantine the Great and of his mother, the Princess Helena. From her brother Publicus, or Peblig, the Parish Church of Carnarvon derives its name of **Llanbeblig**, *Peblig's Church*. This ancient edifice stands amid quiet fields half a mile from the Castle Square, from which it can be reached by way of Pool Street, at the north-east angle, or by turning to the left at the remnant of the wall described above, then taking the first turn on the right, and turning to the right again on reaching the main thoroughfare. Much of the building is older than the fourteenth century. It has a beautiful oak roof, a holy-water stoup, and a fine altar-tomb of the sixteenth century. This commemorates a son of Sir William Griffith, who was with Henry VIII at the siege of Boulogne. The tower is remarkable for its stepped battlements, a feature rarely seen except in Ireland. During the partial restoration of the Church a few years ago there was discovered a grave supposed to be that of Constantine Chlorus, father of Constantine the Great. Here too, it is said, that Emperor was buried, and hence, by order of Edward I, his remains were removed to the "new church" which the English monarch was building within the walls of the town.

Llanbeblig is the church mentioned in Watts-Dunton's *Aylwin*, and in its graveyard Sinfì Lovell declared she would like to be buried.

FROM CARNARVON TO BEDDGELERT.

Half a mile from the town the coach passes **Llanbeblig Parish Church**. The village of **Waenfawr** is reached some 4 miles from Carnarvon.

About a mile beyond Waenfawr is the village of **Bettws-Garmon**, which has some claim to be considered picturesque. Another mile brings us abreast of the ruin of **Nant Mill**, with its accessories of waterfall and bridge, of which one of Cox's *chefs d'œuvre* was a representation. Cox's painting, though probably disposed of by him for considerably under £100, changed owners some years ago for more than £1,000.

Continuing we soon come in sight of **Llyn Quellyn**, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length and about half a mile broad. Close to Quellyn Lake Station is a House of Rest in connection with the Church of England Society of the Sacred Mission. The building was formerly the Snowdon Ranger Hotel. A well-known path (see "Ascents of Snowdon," No. 2) leads from the station to the top of Snowdon. On the opposite side of the lake is **Mynydd Mawr** (the Great Mountain). One of the cliffs, **Carn Cwm Bychan**, rises perpendicularly for several hundred feet. The crown of the cliff is called **Castell Cidwm** (the Wolf's Castle). Tradition says it was the stronghold of a robber chief, known as "the Wolf."

A mile beyond the lake is the village of **Rhyd-ddû**. It is the site of Snowdon station (refreshment room), on the Narrow-Gauge Railway, and is within $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the summit of Snowdon, the path to which may be almost wholly seen.

Soon after leaving the village, we attain an elevation of 651 feet above sea-level, and about a mile from the station pass, by the roadside, an isolated mass of rock, which bears so remarkable a resemblance to the profile of William Pitt that it has received the name of **Pitt's Head**. Near it begins the Beddgelert ascent of Snowdon.

Proceeding for another 3 miles with the river Colwyn as companion, we reach **Beddgelert**, described on an earlier page, and so complete the circuit of Snowdon.

THE ASCENT OF SNOWDON.

SNOWDON is the highest and finest mountain in the southern portion of Great Britain. It has five distinct peaks, viz., *Yr Aran*, *Lliwedd*, *Crib-y-Ddysgl*, *Crib-goch*, and *Y Wyddfa*. The last-named, the central and loftiest, is 3,560 feet above sea-level. As close as possible to the highest ground is the upper terminus of the Mountain Railway, while the limited area of the very summit is the site of a cairn erected by the Ordnance surveyors, and of an hotel owned and managed by the Mountain Railway Company. The apartments include ten bedrooms and two large refreshment rooms, each capable of accommodating some 70 or 80 persons. At the summit station of the railway is a telegraph office. There is also telephonic communication, for the use of visitors only, between the Summit Hotel and the Victoria and Padarn Villa Hotels, Llanberis.

In normal times excursion tickets, available by certain trains, are issued from the principal railway stations in the district. For a slight additional payment the tickets may be used both at Llanberis and at Snowdon station, on the North Wales Narrow-Gauge line, so that holders may ascend by one path and descend by another.

There are five well-beaten tracks to the summit, all free from danger, and in addition there is—

The Mountain Railway.

Fares.¹—Return, 5s.; Single up, 3s. 6d.; Single down, 2s. 6d. The trains run several times daily (week days only). The time occupied in ascending or descending is seventy minutes.

The lower terminal station is about three minutes' walk from the London and North-Western Station at Llanberis.

The length of the line is $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The track is laid on the solid all the way. The gauge is 2 ft. $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. The rails, of the ordinary pattern, are firmly bolted to steel sleepers,

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.



Slater,]

CARNARVON CASTLE.

[Darlington.



G. P. Abraham,

SNOWDON, FROM THE PINNACLES.

[Keswick.]

which are hollowed underneath so that they may be firmly embedded.

The mechanism for propulsion consists of a double steel rack, firmly bolted to the centre of the line, and in the deeply-cut indentation of the rack the driving pinions of the engines work. There are four of these pinions, which are very massive, and continually in gear; and the whole power of the engine being available for braking purposes, the train can be brought to a dead stand instantly. As an additional precaution extra lip girders have been provided, under which powerful brackets run, so that it is absolutely impossible for the engine or carriages to mount the rack without pulling up the rails and sleepers. The carriages have separate brakes, and during the ascent and descent, the engine is at the lower end of the train and always uncoupled.

The route was selected so as to cause as little disfigurement to the mountain as possible, and at the same time to enable passengers to see what is best worth seeing on Snowdon. Soon after leaving the Llanberis terminus, a fine viaduct of fourteen arches affords a full view of the Ceunant Mawr. Then, after passing the first of the three intervening stations, the line ascends along the east side of Cwm Brwynog until the ridge overlooking the pass is reached. From this point the view becomes grander and more extensive at every yard.

1. The Path from Llanberis.

This, although somewhat wet, is the easiest route for pedestrians, and on that account is the most generally chosen. It is, indeed, so comparatively easy and gradual that ponies can be taken all the way, and carts part of the distance. Unfortunately, it is the least interesting. Its length is just under 5 miles, and may be accomplished in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. To get to the path from the station, follow the main road to the Victoria Hotel, and then take a lane on the right. This soon reaches a wood, which is entered by a gate. Follow the cart-track through the wood. Just after leaving the wood it turns sharply to the left, and thence is perfectly plain. At the end of a short half-hour's walk, from the wood stands a cottage on the left. At a height of 1,525 feet, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Llanberis, the path passes under the railroad. About a mile farther is a refreshment hut, generally called the *Halfway House*. Thence the track is steeper. At the height of 2,521 feet the path again passes under the railroad and a fine view is afforded of the Llanberis Pass and Cwm Glas Bach, which lie immediately below. In the vicinity the path meets the Snowdon Ranger route on the right and the Capel Curig route on the left. The elevation of this spot is about 3,260 feet, and a steep climb for about a quarter of an hour completes the ascent.

2. The Snowdon Ranger (Quellyn Lake Station) Route.

The distance by this route is about 4 miles, and will occupy a couple of hours. The path commands fine views, but is very soft after rain. The ascent begins near the Quellyn Lake Station on the North Wales Narrow-Gauge Railway, which joins the London and North-Western line at Dinas Junction, 3 miles south of Carnarvon. Near the lower end of the path is a farmhouse, soon after passing which the path has a zigzag course, and leads through a gate. At the end of half an hour's walk there is another gate, and, the path becoming indistinct, the left shoulder of Snowdon must be taken as a guide, until the track again appears. It finally crosses the railroad and joins the Llanberis path near the junction of that route with the path from Pen-y-Gwryd.

The following facts may be noted by those making the descent by this path. Situated in a clump of trees about the middle of the eastern side of the lake, and visible from the top of Snowdon, is a House of Rest, formerly the Quellyn Lake or Snowdon Ranger Hotel. The path leaves the Llanberis route a short half-mile from the summit.

3. From Beddgelert or Snowdon Station.

The distance to the summit from Beddgelert is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles; from Snowdon Station it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The paths unite about three-quarters of a mile from the high-road. The ascent from the station will occupy a good two hours. Snowdon station is on the narrow-gauge line mentioned above. From Beddgelert follow the Carnarvon road for about $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and there, just short of the *Pitt's Head Rock*, pass from the road to the right through a farm.

From Snowdon Station the summit is in full view, and far up on a shoulder of the mountain may be seen a wall through which the path runs. Less than half-way up, at the foot of a steep and rocky portion of the route, is a refreshment room. At the elevation of 3,080 feet the path runs along the ridge of Bwlch-y-Maen, some 7 or 8 feet wide. The uppermost portion of the route is very steep and rocky, but is perfectly safe. (*Refreshment Room at Snowdon station.*)

We would advise those who go to and from Snowdon by train to ascend by the Llanberis path and descend to Snowdon Station.

The descent begins close to the railway station, and the track is unmistakable. In three-quarters of a mile it swerves to the right, and runs along the ridge of Llechog, near the end of which it passes through a wall and presently goes through the wall again. Then it passes some sheep-pens, and becomes indistinct. Hereabouts it bends to the right

and crosses a field to a gate by a sheepfold, beyond which it winds among the rocks until it reaches a green road. Pedestrians bound for Beddgelert cross this road, but those making for Snowdon station follow the road to the right.

4. Sir Edward Watkin's Path.

This lies beyond the route just described. By it the summit is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the high-road. The path leaves the high-road between Llyn Dinas and Llyn Gwynant, and passes through the grounds of the late Sir Edward Watkin's house. The route is easy until some slate quarries are reached. There the path made by Sir Edward Watkin begins, and is too plain to be missed. It should be ascended rather than descended.

5. The Capel Curig Route.

This is the wildest and grandest of the approaches to the summit of Snowdon. It should be attempted only in clear, settled weather. From Capel Curig the distance to the top is 9 miles, from Pen-y-Gwryd 5 miles, and Gorphwysfa Hotel, 4 miles. Pen-y-Gwryd and Gorphwysfa (Pen-y-Pass) are on the high-road from Capel Curig to Llanberis. The time occupied in making the ascent from either will be from 2 to 3 hours. A pony can be taken all the way, although the upper part is exceedingly steep. The high-road is left near the hotel at Gorphwysfa. The path is open to pedestrians, but closed to vehicles. At the end of about a mile it reaches Llyn Teyrn, a small lake in a hollow. Another half-mile or so brings it to Llyn Llydaw, a sheet of water more than a mile long, which is utilized by the North Wales Power Co. for the generation of electricity. Instead of going the length of the lake along its southern side, the pedestrian can cut off a corner, unless there has been much rain, by crossing the lake by a causeway near the eastern end, and then following the path along the northern shore. From Llyn Llydaw, 1,420 feet above sea-level, there is a steep ascent to Llyn Glaslyn, at an elevation of 1,971 feet. In the vicinity of the latter lake are old copper mines, and there the cart track ceases. It is succeeded by a rough and steep zigzag path which, in clear weather, cannot easily be missed.

To descend by the Capel Curig route, follow the Llanberis path for about a third of a mile. Do not attempt short cuts on the zigzag path, or you may come to grief in a disused mine. The greater part of the route is visible from the summit.

The View from the Summit.

When the conditions are favourable, the prospect is beautiful and extensive. Not the least of the grandeur displayed

lies immediately underneath in the appearance presented by the cwms and precipices of Snowdon itself. In exceptionally clear weather the outline of the Cumberland mountains, the Isle of Man, and the Wicklow mountains in Ireland are visible. More frequently almost every conspicuous height in Wales can be distinguished. The course of the Menai Strait can be traced, as can also the south coast of Anglesey as far as Holyhead mountain, some 32 miles distant.

To those unaccustomed to view objects from such a standpoint, nothing, perhaps, is more surprising than the deceptiveness of the idea of distance. On the west side of Snowdon is an oblong pool that looks but a third of a mile away, while in reality the distance is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The church at Llanberis is 4 miles as the crow flies, but appears to be not more than half as far. Llyn Llydaw is apparently so close that one might almost jump into it, but a horizontal line from the summit of Snowdon to a point over the nearest end of the lake would measure nearly a mile.

Taking advantage of the accommodation provided at the top of the mountain by the Railway Co., many persons remain all night on the summit to enjoy the views at sunset and sunrise.

PWLLHELI.

Owing to conditions brought about by the War, the following details are liable to alteration.

Access.—Pwllheli is the northern terminus of the coast section of the Cambrian Railways, which passengers by the L. & N.W. join at Afon Wen, while the G.W. runs through Ruabon, Llangollen and Bala, and meets the Cambrian line at Dolgelley. Good connections with the North Staffordshire and Midland Railways are secured at Crewe and Stafford. Passengers by either the L. & N.W. or G.W. can book *via* the Cambrian, joining it at Whitchurch or Shrewsbury, when they will pass through some of the most delightful scenery in Wales, and along the shores of Cardigan Bay.

Banks.—*National Provincial, London City and Midland, and Metropolitan of England and Wales.*

Bathing Machines.—*4d.*; with use of bathing dress, *6d.*

Boats.—*Rowing boats, 6d. per hour for each person; boatman, 6d. per hour. Single canoes, 6d. per hour; double, 1s. Sailing boats, 2s. 6d. per hour. Motor launch trips daily to St. Tudwal's Isle, fare 2s., and short trips at 1s. per hour per person.*

'Buses.—Hotel 'buses meet all trains. Motor omnibuses run in connection with certain trains to and from Nevin, Morfa Nevin and Edeyrn. A motor 'bus runs twice daily to Aberdaron.

Distances by Rail.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Barmouth . . .	32	Carnarvon . . .	23	London <i>via</i>	
Birmingham <i>via</i>		Chester . . .	91	Chester . . .	269
Chester . . .	157	Liverpool . . .	110	London <i>via</i>	
Birmingham <i>via</i>				Shrewsbury . . .	280
Shrewsbury . . .	159			Portmadoc . . .	13

By Road.

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Aberdaron . . .	18	Clynnog . . .	9	Nevin . . .	7
Beddgelert . . .	20	Edeyrn . . .	8	Snowdon . . .	22

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Entertainments.—There are bandstands on the West End and South Beach Promenades. Alfresco concerts are given daily on the West End Parade and in the Happy Valley near the South Beach. High-class concerts and dramatic performances are frequently given in the Town Hall and the West End Assembly Rooms.

Fishing.—*See Appendix for Anglers.*

Golf.—A natural sporting course of 18 holes, pleasantly situated along the sea coast, 3 miles in extent. The links are only about 500 yards from the West End Parade, and the Llanbedrog Tram can be taken to the Club-house. Monthly, Gentlemen, 20s.; ladies, 12s. 6d.; weekly, 7s. 6d. and 6s.; daily, 2s. 6d. and 2s. Open meetings at Easter and second week in August.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See Introduction.*

Inquiries may be addressed to the Borough Accountant, Pwllheli, who will send on application a list of apartments.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sundays:—

St. Peter's Church, 11 and 7.30.

English Presbyterian, Ala Road, 11 and 6.

English Congregational, Cardiff Road, 11 and 6.30.

South Beach New Calvinistic Methodist, 10 and 6.

Roman Catholic, North Street, 8 and 11.

Population.—(1911) 3,791.

Post Office.—Chief Office, Lower Cardiff Road. Branch offices, High St., South Beach and West End.

Recreation Ground.—Cardiff Road. Cricket, tennis, croquet, bowls.

Tennis.—Courts in the West End Recreation Ground, Cardiff Road. Per month; Gentlemen, 7s. 6d., ladies, 6s.; two weeks, 5s. and 4s.; one week, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. Courts can also be engaged by the hour. Open tournament, third week in August.

Tramways.—Between the town and South Beach, and between the town and West End, with an extension along the coast to Llanbedrog.

THE name Pwllheli (*poolhelley*) means "the salt-water pool," but there is evidence, including the inscription on the corporate seal of the borough, that the name is a corruption of Porth Heli, the port of one Heli, who was lord of the district. This busy little seaport is the northern terminus of the Cambrian Railways, and the market town of a large agricultural district. What is more to the purpose of our readers, it is finely situated on Cardigan Bay, and enjoys a large measure of popularity on account of the salubrity of its climate, its beach, and the diversified character of the surrounding scenery. The town was made a free borough by the Black Prince, and is still governed by its own mayor and corporation. It consists of an **Old Town**, the main street of which has been widened and improved, and a **New Town**, on the coast. The two are connected by tramway.

Only a century and a quarter ago—

Pwllheli Harbour

was used by more vessels than went to the more important town of Carnarvon. But the Harbour became so choked with sand as, at low tide, to be almost dry. In 1903 the Rt. Hon. C. T. Ritchie laid a commemoration stone in connection with a scheme for the rehabilitation of the haven and the extension of its former usefulness, at an expenditure of some £70,000. The deposit was removed, and other operations were undertaken, with the result that the basin may now be used not only for trading purposes but as a harbour of refuge. In consideration of the latter service Government made a grant towards the cost of the work. The Harbour forms a splendid lake of salt water about a hundred acres in extent, and the embankments which have been constructed on three sides of it are suitable for promenading. Tidal gates separate the **Inner and Outer Harbours**, and a bridge connects the South Beach and Abererch shore. The Outer Harbour provides ample accommodation for yachts and other pleasure boats. As there is a deep-water channel at the entrance, vessels can

enter and leave at all states of the tide, and the depth of the water in the Harbour permits them to be left afloat continuously. On most days boating and canoeing are practicable in the open sea, but those amusements are possible in the inner and outer harbours every day.

The reconstruction of the Harbour made possible the removal of the railway terminus from the outskirts of Pwllheli to the centre of the town.

Another modern building for public use comprises a **Town Hall** and **Market Hall**. The former has accommodation for from 1,500 to 2,000 persons.

To many the most interesting object in the Old Town is—

The Parish Church,

consecrated in 1887 and dedicated to St. Peter. It is in the Early Decorated style, and exhibits some of the leading features of the ancient Welsh churches. As is usual in them, the chancel is a continuation of the nave, without any break in the walls or in the roof, the east end being furnished with a panelled ceiling, or *mwd*, as it is called in Welsh.

Towering above the town is the **County School**, established under the Welsh Intermediate Education Act, and offering secondary education to boys and girls at moderate fees.

New Pwllheli

consists of two distinct districts, known respectively as **South Beach** and the **West End**. It is about a mile from the Old Town, with which each part, however, is connected by a tram-line (*fare to South Beach or to West End, 1d.*). Each has a promenade and sea-wall, a number of attractive residences and hotels, and first-class boarding houses.

The Beach,

one of the finest in the kingdom, extends westward in crescent form from the **Gimlet Rock**, a natural curiosity at the mouth of the Harbour, to a wooded headland near Llanbedrog, a distance of 5 miles. It is composed of sand and small shingle, has a southerly aspect, and is of gradual and uniform slope, so that as the water never recedes more than a few yards, bathing may be enjoyed at all states of the tide. On the shore rare and valuable shells can be found.

The Climate.

Pwllheli has a southerly aspect, and is enclosed by a semi-circle of mountains which screen it from cold north and east

winds. The air is dry and pure, and in the summer the heat is tempered by pleasant breezes.

"The southern aspect of the Pwllheli coast and its distance from the mountains give a lower rainfall and a warmer temperature than along the northern coast of Carnarvonshire. The summer temperature is lower than that of the south of England, and the change from the Midlands and the South to the fine pure air of this part of the Bay of Cardigan is very marked."

According to figures based on calculations extending over twenty years, the winter and early spring temperature of Pwllheli is as mild as that of Torquay, Bournemouth, or the Isle of Wight, and the air is not so relaxing.

Everywhere there is evidence of the mildness of the winters at Pwllheli, for the myrtle, fuchsia and hydrangea flourish in the open air.

With reference to the winter climate, Alex. M. McAlldowie, M.D., F.R.S., Senior Surgeon to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, writes:—"Pwllheli may be said to be in every respect an ideal winter health resort. From my own experience as a visitor, and also with a fairly large acquaintance with other health resorts, I can truly say that I know no locality in this country where invalids can spend more of their time in the open air, and that Pwllheli is a health resort abounding in beauty and loveliness, and rich in health-giving properties."

The water supply is excellent, and sufficient for a population more than twice as large. It is obtained from mountains four miles inland.

Sports and Amusements.

The bathing at Pwllheli can hardly be excelled; the boating is safe and pleasant, and there is good sea fishing. Abundance of mackerel, whiting and pollock can be taken close to St. Tudwal's Islands. Bass are caught from the groyne at the Harbour entrance or in the channel close to the Gimlet Rock. In the large Recreation Ground, bowls, croquet, tennis and cricket can be played, and along the coast is a fine 18-hole golf course, extended and improved in 1909 under the supervision of Braid. There are daily band and other musical performances out of doors, and dramatic entertainments and concerts are frequent in the large public halls.

There is good trout fishing, too, in the neighbourhood. Some of the streams are only a few minutes' walk from the

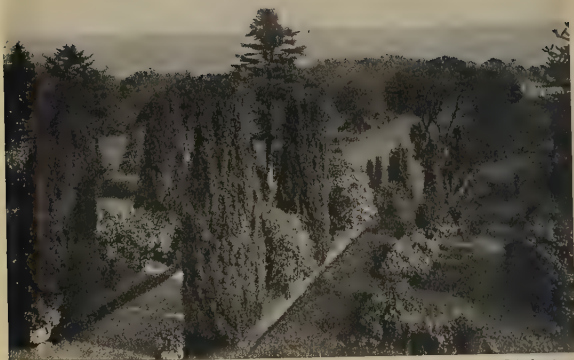
Pwllheli.



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PWLLHELI.

[Reigate.]



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[Reigate.

VIEW FROM THE TERRACE OF GLYN-Y-WEDDW.



F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

[Reigate.

GLYN-Y-WEDDW HALL, LLANBEDROG.

hotels. From the Cardiff Road Bridge, the River Rhyd-Hir may be followed as far as Ala Road. With the exception of about a mile between Four Cosses and Abererch, the River Erch, which enters the Harbour close to the goods station, is open to all. By taking train to Pantglas, Brynkir, or Ynys on the Afon Wen to Carnarvon line, the Dwyfach River can be reached in a few minutes.

The rivers are under the direction of a Board of Conservators, who charge a licence fee of 7s. for the season, 5s. per month, or 2s. for weekly tickets.

There are thousands of acres of marsh and rough uplands, and leave to shoot over them can be obtained without much difficulty. The marshes are intersected by small swamps, pools, and lagoons, which are the haunts of numbers of long-winged fowl and surface feeders. As the climate is milder than at any other centre so far north, birds are more attracted to it, while the hardships of winter shooting are lessened.

Waders are more or less plentiful all the year round. Geese are rare but during hard weather widgeon, teal, curlew, plover, and oxbirds are present in large numbers. Rabbit shooting is good and easily obtainable, either upon the sand dunes or inland farms near the town, and there are plenty of good snipe grounds, but permission to visit them must be secured. Pwllheli is generally considered one of the best centres for wild fowling in Wales.

To geologists and botanists the district around Pwllheli is of much interest. For the consideration of the former there is the disputed point as to whether the "Llein band" of rocks, extending from Bardsey to Porth Dinlleyn, belongs to the Pre-Cambrian formation or is "altered Cambrian," as Ramsay calls it in his *Memoir of the Geology of North Wales*. In the vicinity of the town are several outcrops of sedimentary rocks, and some of the strata are rich in fossil deposits.

The botanist should provide himself with Griffith's *Flora of Anglesey and Carnarvonshire*, published by Messrs. Nixon & Jarvis, of Bangor. The district offers exceptional facilities for the study of the floras peculiar to the seaside, to inland marshes and bog, to river sides and to hilly pastures, while students of mosses and liverworts will find the district unusually rich in material.

Pwllheli is the business centre of the great peninsula of Carnarvonshire generally called—

The Lleyn Promontory,

much of which is little trodden by the tourist. But, as Mr. Bradley says in his *Highways and Byways in North Wales*: "What is now an *Ultima Thule* was, a thousand years ago, a land trodden by the feet of strangers from every shore of the Irish Sea—missionaries, hostile invaders, and pious pilgrims. Every church recalls some Celtic saint, and marks a stage upon the pilgrim track. . . . The pilgrims were on their way to Bardsey," which has been aptly described as the Iona of Wales.

Upon the promontory are many spots where no word of English is spoken or understood. It abounds in archæological interest, historical associations and legendary reminiscences. Other charms are towering cliffs, rising straight from the sea, solitary salt water creeks, unexplored caverns, and behind the cliffs "brilliant colouring of gorse and heather, a dream of purple and yellow, a veritable Field of the Cloth of Gold.'

For the most part, the mountains and hills, which form such a striking feature when seen from a distant view-point, decline in elevation from east to west, and when viewed singly are not, in themselves, particularly attractive. But from the summit of most there is a grand panorama of land and sea, and as the heights are easily accessible, even for children and delicate persons, they present a good ground for picnic parties.

Much of the district is divided into small holdings, and cattle-rearing and pig breeding are largely followed.

EXCURSIONS FROM PWLLHELI.

THE PANORAMA WALK.

This is a popular walk close to the town. It is reached by way of Ala Road, and passes through the beautiful nurseries of Messrs. Dickson. About midway is a rock affording a fine view over sea and land.

TO PEN-Y-GARN.

Pen-y-Garn is a hill immediately above the town, from which it is reached by way of Salem Terrace, up the hill to which that leads, and then through the second gateway on the left. The summit commands an extensive view of the Snowdonian range, the Rivals, and the coast of Merionethshire.

For a longer walk pass from Pen-y-Garn to the left of Denio Church and cemetery, towards Caeuauwynion river, where is a rustic bridge amid pretty scenery. On returning, visitors should retrace their steps for a short distance; then the route may be varied by taking the first turning on the right after leaving Caeuauwynion road. This leads past a couple of hills to the high road to **Llannor**. Proceed along that to the left to **Efailnewydd**, a village two miles from Pwllheli, which is reached by following the Nevin high road.

TO ABERERCH BEACH.

Abererch Beach is a bracing tract east of Pwllheli. The village is on the Criccieth road, 2 miles from Pwllheli. It may be included in a circular walk by using the Carnarvon road for going or returning.

EXCURSIONS FROM PWLLHELI.

In normal times there is a good choice of trips by motor cars and horsed vehicles, and combined rail and road excursions are offered by the Cambrian Railways Co.

Sea trips are made almost daily to St. Tudwal's and Bardsey Islands.

¹ The Festiniog Toy Railway attracts thousands of visitors. Excursion tickets are issued daily to Minffordd, on the Cambrian Railways, for 1s. 6d., and the ordinary return fare thence to Blaenau Festiniog is 2s. The line is described in the Criccieth section.

But of all the excursions from Pwllheli the most popular is that—

TO LLANBEDROG.

By tramway from the town to the beach at West End, thence along the coast. Fare to Llanbedrog only, 4d. Combined tickets, including return and admission to Glyn-y-Weddw Hall, Art Gallery and Gardens, 1s. Children under six, half price. There is a booking office on the beach at West End. Tickets are also obtainable on the cars.

Llanbedrog is a pretty village on the coast 4 miles south-west of Pwllheli. The great attraction is the mansion of **Glyn-y-Weddw** (the Widow's Glen), with pleasant grounds on the margin of Llanbedrog Bay. The house was built in 1857 by the late Lady Jones Parry, widow of Sir Love Parry Jones Parry. When the estate came into the market it was purchased by Messrs. Andrews, the proprietors of much of New Pwllheli, and the mansion and demesne were thrown open to the public as an Art Gallery and Pleasure Gardens. *The grounds are open from 10 a.m. to dusk.* The entrance hall, 40 ft. square by 35 ft. high, has several stained windows displaying the coats of arms of historic families. The roof is a fine piece of architecture in the Gothic style, lighted by a large central dome. The **Art Gallery** contains over 400 paintings and drawings, including works by P. de Wint, David Cox, S. Prout, W. J. Müller, Clarkson Stanfield, Sir E. Landseer, J. B. Pyne, T. M. Richardson, Copley Fielding, Sam Bough, J. Phillips, Carl Maratti, D. Teniers, J. M. Turner, and other famous artists. The estate covers about 50 acres, and is so sheltered that camellias and other delicate trees and shrubs remain in the open all the year round. Visitors are at liberty to walk or sit in the lovely gardens, and to wander along the rustic paths in the woods to the top of **Llanbedrog Head**, from which there is a magnificent view.

Entertainments are given in a hall which was built for the purpose, and there is a refreshment room.

Near the coast, two miles from Llanbedrog, is **Castell-march**, boasting a tradition of a king named March, with a horse's head and ears, corresponding with the King Mark of the Tristram romance.

¹ See footnote, p. x, Introduction.

South-west of Llanbedrog, at a distance of two miles from the tram terminus, is the village of **Mynytho**. From the hill behind the school is obtained one of the finest panoramic views in the peninsula. Near Voelgron Schools is **Flynnon Arian** (Silver Well) an ancient wishing well. Another ancient well which was accounted holy is **Flynnon Fyw** (Well of Life). Tradition credits it with having restored sight to the blind and health to the sick. It is reached by turning to the left at the post office and bearing towards a chapel, a few yards beyond which is the wall surrounding the well.

On the coast 3 miles beyond Llanbedrog is the village of—

Abersoch.

Access.—A motor 'bus runs daily, throughout the year, Sundays excepted, between Pwllheli and Abersoch, and during the summer season it meets all trains at Pwllheli station.

Golf.—9-hole course. Visitors' tickets: gentlemen, season, 21s.; month, 15s. fortnight, 10s.; week, 7s. 6d.; day, 2s. Ladies, 10s. 6d., 10s., 7s. 6d., 6s. and 1s. 6d.

This rising village and watering-place, 7 miles from Pwllheli by road, stands on the shore of a pretty little bay. It faces due south, and, being well sheltered, is an ideal winter resort, enjoying the climate of the south-west coast of England. The bay has an extensive flat sandy shore, affording good bathing. From full to half-tide, swimmers will find deep water under Benar Hill. Visitors must beware of being surrounded by the tide at this point. Those who care to spend a day fishing for mackerel may make arrangements for accompanying one of the roomy boats belonging to the little port; but, on account of the currents, it is not advisable, even for skilled yachtsmen, to venture alone beyond the bay.

In the stream from which the village takes its name there is good trout-fishing, except in dry seasons. Less than a mile from the shore are **St. Tudwal's Islands** and **Lighthouse**. Boats to visit them can be obtained.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Abersoch is **Porth Ceiriad**, or **Caered**, a weird and romantic cove shut in by perpendicular cliffs rising to a great height. On the ledges innumerable sea-birds nest. Refreshments can be obtained at the entrance to the cove.

One mile south-west of Abersoch is the quaint village of **Llanengan**, containing one of the most ancient churches in the peninsula. It has a richly-carved screen, considered by some the finest in Wales. It has also the holy vessels from Bardsey, and a coffer of solid oak, in which tradition says the inhabitants deposited their Peter's Pence.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west is the quaint little hamlet of **Llan-gian**, nestling at the foot of a hill. The parish Church, dedicated to St. Gian, was founded in the sixth century. It has been restored and English services are held in it.

THROUGH BODVEAN WOODS TO NEVIN.

(a) A motor omnibus runs between Pwllheli Station and Nevin and thence to Morfa Nevin, Edeyrn and Tydweiliog. About five journeys are made daily in connection with the trains. For times see Cambrian Railways time-tables. Passengers may join at intermediate stopping-places. Fare for the whole distance, 1s.

(b) By char-à-banc from the Eifl Hotel, High Street. Return fare, 2s.

Shortly after leaving Pwllheli, we pass **Bodvel Hall**, the abode for a time of Mrs. Piozzi, better known as Mrs. Thrale, who, with her first husband, enjoyed the friendship of Dr. Johnson, who once spent a few days here as her guest.

The **Bodvean Woods**, about 4 miles from Pwllheli, are of great extent. They surround the seat of the Hon. F. G. Wynn. The public road runs through the heart of them. On emerging from the woods we are on the Portmadoc road. Turning to the left, we again come to the Pwllheli and Nevin road, which was quitted on entering the woods. We pass Bodvean Church, and some 2 miles beyond the woods reach Nevin.

TO THE RIVALS AND CLYNOG VIA LLANAEIHAIRN.

By char-à-banc from the Eifl Hotel, Llanaelhaiarn, return fare, 2s. ; Clynog, 2s. 6d. Also as part of a motor-car excursion.

This excursion takes us to the north of Pwllheli, and the places visited are upon or not far from the west coast of the peninsula.

Llanaelhaiarn, on the Carnarvon road, 6 miles north of Pwllheli, is over 300 ft. above sea-level. Its Church was originally built in the sixth century. The building was restored in 1892 and the chancel enlarged. During the restoration there were discovered upon its walls certain curious inscriptions attributed to British pilgrims. The church possesses a fifteenth century wooden screen and in the wall of the north transept is an inscribed stone which has attracted the attention of eminent antiquaries.

On the Nevin road, about 300 yards from the church, is **St. Aelhaiarn's Well**, which has been roofed in and from which water is conveyed in pipes to supply the village.

Either Llanaelhaiarn or **Llithfaen**, a village about 2 miles south-west, can be the starting-point for the ascent of—

The Rivals,

as the English call the triple peaks here situated between the main road and the coast. To the Welsh they are *Yr Eifl*, or *Geifl*, the plural of *gafl*, a fork, and having reference to the two forks (as of legs) made by the three peaks. The triple head presents a bold appearance from land and sea, but as the point of view is changed it presents a widely varying form. From the Carnarvon side the three sugar-loaf summits are visible. The central peak is the loftiest. Its height is 1849 feet. The ascent takes about three-quarters of an hour. The view from the summit is magnificent and extensive.

On the southern peak, which overlooks the road from Llithfaen to Llanaelhaiarn, is **Tre'r Ceiri**, "the Giants' Town," the most important of the prehistoric towns in North Wales. It covers 5 acres and was originally enclosed by three walls. Parts of the walls are 15 feet high. Within the enclosure are numerous cells or dwellings of various forms and sizes. The diameter of some of the circular dwellings is 15 or 16 feet. The site has hundreds of visitors during the year. It is best reached from Llanaelhaiarn or Llithfaen. From either it is about half a mile. A description of the remains will be found in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1903.

About a mile north of Llithfaen is **Nant Gwytheyrn** (Vortigern's Valley), a gloomy glen owing its name to the tradition that Vortigern fled hither after betraying his country to the Saxons. Remains said to be those of the chieftain were discovered in a large mound on the east side of the valley.

Clynnog (or **Clynnog Fawr**) is a rather large village on the coast, midway between Pwllheli and Carnarvon, its distance from each being 10 miles. During the past few years it has grown in favour with persons needing rest and quiet. Its chief attraction for the passing tourist is the fine old church which stands on a spot that has been the site of a sacred edifice since A.D. 606. The present structure was a collegiate church up to the Dissolution of the Monasteries. It is cruciform in plan and Late Perpendicular in style, dating from the days of Edward IV or Henry VII. It has a good rood screen; a primitive instrument called "lazy tongs," by which dogs were removed from the church, and an ancient oak chest said to have been the depository of the proceeds of the sale of calves and lambs born with the earmark *Nôd Beuno*. On the south side of the Church and connected with it by a dark cloister, is the ancient **Church of St. Beuno**.

At the tomb of the saint, who is said to have settled here in 635, many wonderful cures were believed to be wrought.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of the Church is **St. Beuno's Well**, from which the villagers still obtain much of their water. Within sight of the high-road and between it and the sea is a fine four-legged **Cromlech**, 6 ft. high, 8 ft. long and 5 ft. wide. The way to it is along the lane on the south side of the Church for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and then across to the field in which the relic stands.

THROUGH THE NANHORON VALLEY.

By char-à-banc from the Eifl Hotel at 2 p.m.; fare 2s.

The valley is also included in the route of a motor-car excursion.

The **Nanhoron Valley**, south-west of Pwllheli, is 3 miles long. Its woods and rich meadow-lands form a fine foreground to **Garn Fadryn**, or **Madryn Mountain** (1,217 ft.), about 6 miles from the town. Next to the Rivals Madryn is the highest point of the peninsula. On the summit is a large prehistoric fortress with a stone called **Arthur's Table**, which some antiquaries connect with the Stone of Destiny in the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey. Nestling under the north side of the hill is **Madryn Castle**, once the seat of Sir Love Jones Parry, Bart., and in days more remote the home of Tudor knights. It now belongs to the Carnarvonshire Education Committee, who have converted it into an up-to-date farm school, the first to be financially aided under the Development Act of 1909. It was opened in 1913. Here the Welsh farmer, his wife, sons and daughters may take advantage of the higher lessons in agriculture in the most economical way. The old gatehouse remains untouched, and one of the old-fashioned rooms still displays the arms of the noble family that lived in the castle for generations.

The drive affords views of Hell's Mouth Bay, Cardigan Bay, Abersoch and the St. Tudwal's Islands, the Rivals, Moel Hebog, Snowdon, and Cader Idris. **Hell's Mouth**, a broad, sandy bay, owes its name to the danger it is to shipping—a danger partly due to its currents. In stormy weather, the sea at this spot is very fine.

TO ABERDARON.

The farthest point of a circular motor car drive of 45 miles. A motor-bus runs twice daily from Pwllheli.

Aberdaron is the remotest and quaintest village on the Lleyn Promontory, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Pwllheli by the shortest route (*viâ* Rhiw). It is protected by gradually rising cliffs. Here



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ABERSOCH BAY.

[Lith. S. 1865.]

[Oswestry.]

NEVIN AND THE RIVALS.

J. Maitland.]



was born in 1788 an eccentric individual named Richard Robert Jones, better known as Dick of Aberdaron. He acquired thirteen or fourteen languages, but could make no profitable use of them. He was always in great poverty, and used to parade the streets of Liverpool extremely dirty and ragged, with mutilated stores of literature under his arm. He died at St. Asaph in 1845.

The church of Aberdaron has a Norman doorway.

To an earlier church, the foundations of which are still discernible, Gryffydd ap Rhys, Prince of South Wales in the twelfth century, fled to escape the treachery of Gryffydd ap Cynan, sovereign of North Wales, who purposed to deliver him into the hands of the English King, Henry I. Orders were given for the fugitive to be forcibly taken from his place of refuge, but the clergy of the neighbourhood offered united opposition to this violation of the sanctuary, and the soldiers were unable to execute their commands. At night the young prince escaped and took refuge in the deep forest of Strath Towy, in South Wales.

TO BARDSEY ISLAND.

The island is $19\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Pwllheli and about a mile from the cape known as **Braich-y-Pwll** (*brak-e-pool*),—

The Land's End of Wales,

where is magnificent rock scenery. At a spot called **Parwyd** (the wall) are precipitous rocks rising from the sea to a great height. On the shore to the east of the extreme point, and approachable only at low water, is **Ffynnon Fair**, "our Lady's Well," which always yields fresh water, although it is often covered by the sea. The credulous may test the reputed virtues of the water to obtain the fulfilment of a wish by running, with mouth filled with the liquid, three times round the quadrangle of an old Abbey hard by.

The island, however, is not approached from the cape, but from **Aberdaron**, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the point.

Bardsey Island.

Visitors who desire to make the journey to Bardsey Island should have plenty of time on their hands. In the first place, it may be necessary to wait for days at Aberdaron before a favourable combination of wind and tide permits the passage to be made; and in the second, should the weather be unsettled, a sudden change may render return likewise impossible for a considerable period. The recognized boatmen's fee is £1 for the double journey, if performed on the same day. The Bardsey folk have a boat-house of their own in Port

Meudwy, a small creek half a mile from Aberdaron, where the landing is better than on the beach by the village. On Tuesdays, whenever the weather will permit (and oftener in summer), some of the islanders may generally be found in Aberdaron, disposing of their crabs and lobsters, and collecting stores and mails.

The intervening channel is **Bardsey Sound**, more picturesquely and significantly known as the "Race of Bardsey."

According to old chronicles, those of the monks of Bangor Iscoed who escaped the general massacre by the Saxons, fled to Bardsey. The island gained a reputation as a place of sanctity, and was the goal of countless pilgrims, who, it is supposed, built the church of St. Mary at Braich-y-Pwll, and refreshed themselves at the Ffynnon Fair close by, before essaying to cross the Sound. Under the denomination of *Insula Sanctorum*, Bardsey is referred to by early poets as the burial-place of 20,000 of these holy men or "saints." Colour to this tale is given by the fact that human bones and remains in great numbers have from time to time been unearthed.

At the present day, the existence of the **King of Bardsey** adds interest to the island. The history of this dynasty of peasant monarchs is quaint. Bardsey, it should be explained, with much of the neighbouring mainland, belongs to the Hon. F. G. Wynn, a descendant of the first Lord Newborough. Fifty years and more ago, when communication with Pwllheli was infrequent and uncertain, the islanders were scarcely amenable to the laws of the country, and, while not deliberately setting these aside, drew up their own code of rules and ordinances by which the little community was governed. The third Baron and fifth Baronet, perceiving the need of some directing influence, selected from among his tenants one of superior parts, and, appointing him head man, bade the islanders obey his ruling. By way of jest, Lord Newborough declared that his vice-gerent should indeed be "king," and in pursuance of his whim presented the peasant monarch with a "crown" of brass, a "treasure" in the shape of a silver casket, and an "army" to guard the treasure, in the person of a wooden effigy painted to represent a soldier. For many years the "king" ruled beneficently in Bardsey, the office passing at his death to his son. Of late years, however, the islanders have come into closer touch with the mainland, and, the old order having changed, the functions of the "king" have lapsed, but the insignia of office remain, and the tradition is maintained.

Bardsey Island is about two miles in length by one in width. It is without shop or store or any similar institution. The inhabitants number about 70, including the staff of the

lighthouse, and are either farmers or fishermen. The latter make the greater part of their living out of the crabs and lobsters which abound, and which they sell in Aberdaron.

From the harbour the one and only road takes the visitor across the island to the little cemetery. Here the principal monuments are a tall Celtic cross of white Anglesey marble, marking the grave of the third Baron Newborough, who died in 1888, and another smaller cross, erected to the memory of the 20,000 "saints." But the most conspicuous object is the ruined tower, supposed to be a relic of the Abbey of St. Mary, founded in the fifth or sixth century.

TO BETTWS-Y-COED AND LLANBERIS.

To Portmadoc by rail and thence by motor-car *via* Pont Aberglaslyn, Beddgelert, Pen-y-Gwryd and Capel Curig to the Fairy Glen, Bettws-y-Coed, the distance covered by the car, going and returning is about 54 miles. Fare, 8s. Also by motor coach from, Pwllheli. See current advertisements.

Bettws-y-Coed has long been a favourite haunt of anglers and artists. It is in the midst of charming sylvan scenery, and fully deserves its title, "The Paradise of Wales." The prettiest spot is at **Pont-y-Pair** ("the Bridge of the Cauldron"), an old stone bridge thrown over the Llugwy. The Old Church contains the recumbent effigy of Gryffydd ap Dafydd Goch, who lived in the fourteenth century.

The **Miners' Bridge**, the **Swallow Falls** and the **Fairy Glen** are attractions near the village.

Bettws-y-Coed is fully described in our companion *Guide to North Wales, Northern Section*.

NEVIN.

Access.—Nevin is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Pwllheli station, on the Cambrian Railways, and 10 miles from Chwilog station on the London & North-Western line. Between Pwllheli station and Nevin there is a motor omnibus service six times a day (Sundays excepted) during the season and three times a day during the rest of the year.

Golf.—18-hole coast course of 5,400 yards. Visitors: gentlemen, month, 20s.; week, 7s. 6d.; day, 2s. 6d.; ladies, 12s. 6d., 6s., and 2s. Between July 15 and September 15 slightly higher fees for monthly and weekly tickets. The motor 'buses pass near the links, and a special 'bus leaves the town for the links daily during the height of the season.

Nevin is a remarkably clean and healthy fishing town of some 1,800 inhabitants on the west coast of the Lleyn Promontory. The beach is of firm, clean sand, and affords safe and pleasant bathing at all states of the tide. Visitors may also enjoy safe boating in the little bay fronting the town. The climate is mild, but bracing. There is an unlimited supply of pure water from springs on the mountain above the town. The scenery is magnificent. In the immediate neighbourhood there are pleasant cliff walks, and the surrounding district affords interesting excursions.

Nevin is historically interesting as the spot where, in 1284, Edward I held a grand triumphal festival, at which tournaments were the principal amusement. The site of the lists can still be traced. The old Church (*St. Mary's*) has a singularly narrow tower, surmounted by a disproportionate ship, which does duty for a weathercock.

About 2 miles from Nevin, on the Pwllheli road, are the Bodvean Woods, already described, and 4 miles distant are the Rival Mountains and Vortigern's Valley.

Morfa Nevin and Edeyrn.

The motor omnibuses which run between Nevin and Pwllheli also serve Morfa Nevin, Edeyrn, or Ederm, Tydweiliog and Penygraig.

Morfa Nevin is on the coast about a mile west of Nevin, near the golf links. Edeyrn is a short distance farther, and beyond it are Tydweiliog and Penygraig, but with these the summer visitor is not concerned. Fronting Morfa Nevin and part of Edeyrn is Porth Dinlleyn Bay, a pretty inlet divided from Nevin by a sharp promontory and forming a fine natural harbour. Its beach, about 2 miles long, is safe for bathing at all states of the tide. Morfa Nevin is supplied with water from the same source as Nevin.

LLANGOLLEN, CORWEN AND BALA.

The Valley of the Dee.

THE Welsh and English river *Dee* passes through some of the most lovely scenery in the kingdom in its course of 90 miles from Lake Bala, past Chester, to the Irish Sea, with which it is connected by a tidal estuary 13 miles long and from 3 to 6 miles broad. When the tide is in, this estuary is a noble arm of the sea, deep enough for ships to sail upon, but at low water it is a waste of sand and ooze with the river flowing through in a narrow stream. The banks are "the Sands of Dee" of which Kingsley wrote so pathetically.

To the Ancient Britons, the Dee was a sacred river, and its name is supposed to be derived from their word *Duw*—divine.

Connected with the Dee is a very ancient legend to the effect, as George Borrow relates, that "The Dee springs from two fountains, high up in Merionethshire, called Dwy Fawr and Dwy Fach, or the great and little Dwy, whose waters pass through those of the Lake of Bala without mingling with them. These fountains had their names from two individuals, Dwy Fawr and Dwy Fach, who escaped from the Deluge, when all the rest of the human race were drowned, and the passing of the waters of the two fountains through the lake, without being confounded with its flood, is emblematic of the salvation of the two individuals from the Deluge, of which the lake is a type."

For centuries the Valley of the Dee, or Deva, has been famous for its pastures and dairy produce.

To the Welsh, the valley is Glyndyfrdwy (*glun-duwr-doo-e*), the Glen of the Dwy or Dee. Their celebrated chieftain, Owen Glendower, or Glyndwr (a contraction of Glyndyfrdwy), was surnamed after the valley, a portion of which he inherited from his father, his patrimony lying between Corwen and Berwyn, near Llangollen.

The river is a good trout stream and it also yields salmon.

Needless to say, the fishing is preserved, but tickets are issued at moderate charges. (*See Appendix for Anglers.*)

In April and May, when the river is still high after winter rain, fishing in the Dee between Corwen and Llangollen is carried on by men in coracles, and it may be remarked in passing that the Dee is the only river in North Wales where this primitive craft of the Ancient Britons may be seen.

A coracle is constructed by tightly stretching tarpaulin or leather over a wooden frame. Originally hides were the covering. The size is about 4 feet by 3 feet. The sides bulge slightly outward and the bottom is almost flat, so that the vessel rides high upon the water and is swayed and tossed by every wave. A coracle is so light that a man can easily carry one on his back.

Just before reaching its wide estuary the Dee sweeps nearly round the ancient city of **Chester** (described in the Introduction), and many visitors to North Wales wisely break their journey there, either outward or homeward. The other chief centres connected with the Dee are the Welsh towns of Llangollen, Corwen and Bala.

LLANGOLLEN.

Access.—By Great Western Railway.

Distances (by rail).

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bala	22	Chester	23	London	202
Barmouth	48	Corwen	11	Manchester	63
Berwyn	12½	Dolgelley	39½	Ruabon	6
Birmingham	73	Liverpool	39	Shrewsbury	31

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Fishing.—*See Appendix for Anglers.*

Golf.—There is a good 9-hole course. Visitors, 2s. day; 6s. week; 15s. month.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See Introduction.*

Inquiries.—Address the Clerk to the Urban District Council.

Library and News Room.—The latter is open daily from 8.30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Motor-bus.—Between Wrexham, Cefn and Llangollen several times a day.

Newspaper.—*Llangollen Advertiser*, Friday, 1d.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services:—

Parish Church—11 and 6.

Presbyterian, Wesleyan and Baptist—11 and 6.

Population (1911), 3,250.

Tennis.—2s. 6d. first week; 1s. 6d. each additional week.

Llangollen (*thlan-gothlen*) stands in a sheltered valley, 7 miles in length, in the midst of the most beautiful of the hill districts of Wales. "The Vale of Llangollen," says Ruskin, "is a true valley between ranges of grandly-formed hills . . . and the village of Llangollen is one of the most beautiful and delightful in Wales or anywhere else."

"Along with Hanmer and Kinglake," says Robert Brown-
ing, "I received an impression of the beauty around me which

continued ineffaceable during all subsequent experience of varied foreign scenery, mountain, valley and river."

The town is built on the Dee, the **Bridge** over which is regarded as one of the seven wonders of Wales. These, according to an old rhyme, are :—

" Pistyll Rhaiadr and Wrexham steeple,
Snowdon's mountain without its people,
Overton yew-trees, St. Winefride's Wells,
Llangollen Bridge and Gresford bells."

The " wonderful " bridge is formed of four irregular arches. It is said to have been originally built in the reign of Henry I, and to have been widened and added to in 1346, by Dr. John Trevor, Bishop of St. Asaph and Chancellor of Chester. In later days an additional arch was erected, under which the railway passes, and the bridge was enlarged to double its former width. While widening the bridge in 1873, the workmen found, on a stone in one of the arches, the figures 1131, and the letters W. S. There is a fine view from the bridge, especially when, as Tennyson says—

" The south-west, that blowing Bala Lake
Fills all the sacred Dee."

Then the water may rise in a few hours to the height of the bridge. Such inundations sometimes occur in the finest weather, when there has been neither rain nor thaw.

The Parish Church

is dedicated to St. Collen and from it the town derives its name. This ancient structure has a splendid carved roof, said to have been brought from the neighbouring Abbey of Valle Crucis, and there are numerous marble monuments.

In the churchyard is a monument to the " Ladies of Llangollen," and near the west gate is a tombstone bearing the oft-quoted epitaph—

" Our life is but a winter's day,
Some only breakfast and away,
Others to dinner stay and are full fed—
The oldest man but sups and goes to bed;
Large is his debt who lingers out the day—
Who goes the soonest has the least to pay."

Adjoining the **Town Hall** is the **Public Library and News Room**, established largely through the generosity of the late Sir Theodore Martin, K.C.B., and Lady Martin (Helen Faucit), who lived at Bryntysilio, under 2 miles from the town.

For the greater part of the year the air of Llangollen

is humid, but on the neighbouring hills the air is always bracing.

The town is well drained, has an excellent supply of water, offers many facilities for sport and amusement, and is the centre of charming walks, drives and water excursions. These last are made by boats, comfortably fitted up, and drawn by ponies. The starting-point is the Canal Wharf, close to the Railway Station.

Llangollen was the headquarters of George Borrow during the first portion of his visit to Wales, and in his *Wild Wales* he has much to say about the town and its vicinity.

EXCURSIONS FROM LLANGOLLEN.

TO PLAS NEWYDD.

Admission.—2s. 6d. each. Parties of more than 10 should apply to the owner two weeks before the proposed visit.

Plas Newydd (*Anglicè*, New Palace) is a villa that for many years was the residence of Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby, generally known as **The Ladies of Llangollen**. The two ladies, who came hither from Ireland in 1779, were as singular in their dress as in their mode of life. Their hair was short, uncurled, and powdered. Each wore a man's hat and neckcloth, and a blue riding habit. Neither would sit for her portrait, but each wished for that of the other, and aided Lady Leighton in obtaining sketches, which were lithographed. Lady Eleanor died in 1829, aged ninety years, and Miss Ponsonby two years later, at the age of seventy-six. Both were interred in the churchyard of Llangollen, where a monument commemorates their virtues and those of an old and valued servant who lies under the same stone. They received visits from many celebrities, including Scott, Wordsworth, and the Duke of Wellington, as well as from persons of less note. Each visitor was expected to make a gift of a piece of carving or a curio, and the ladies employed a joiner in decorating the cottage and in searching for curiosities in the neighbourhood. Several of the articles which belonged to them still remain in the house, which has changed hands more than once and has been enlarged, but both outside and in the dwelling is yet adorned with the vast amount of carving which they caused to be worked upon it.

The villa is about a quarter of a mile from the station and the Bridge. Turn to the left at the top of Castle Street, and at the Grapes Hotel follow a narrow street on the right. From that the house can be reached by a path on the left or

Llangollen.



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LLANGOLLEN.

[Reside.



J. P. Clarke,

[Llangollen.

PLAS NEWYDD—A DEE CORACLE—ON THE CANAL.

by the drive which is gained by proceeding for another 170 yards. In the grounds the **Gorsedd Circle** of the National Eisteddfod is permanently situated.

TO CASTELL DINAS BRAN.

This is a ruin on a conical hill, 1,062 feet high, facing the town, and opposite the end of the Bridge. To the disgust of all good Welshmen, it is often called Crow Castle. The primitive character of the architecture indicates a very early date for the foundation of the structure. The view from the summit is extensive and charming. The Castle is supposed to have been the stronghold of Eliseg, Prince of Powis, in the sixth century. It was the seat of the lords of Valle Crucis for centuries. In the reign of Henry III it afforded asylum from the fury of his justly-enraged subjects to Gryffydd-ap-Madoc, who had sided with the English monarch and betrayed his country. The traitor was the son of the founder of Valle Crucis Abbey, and there both father and son were buried. The Castle is also said to have been the residence, about 1390, of a beautiful and accomplished lady, named Myfanwy Fychan, who was loved by a poet bearing the name of Hywel ap Einion Lygliw. She was rich and he was poor; so he had only the poet's refuge—a melancholy ode.

To approach the ruin, leave the Ruabon road a few yards from the station, and after a steep ascent, cross a canal bridge from which a footpath leads to the open hill.

TO VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY.

(Admission sixpence.)

Valle Crucis Abbey, the Abbey of the Vale of the Cross, is a majestic ruin in a lovely, sequestered valley on the right of the road towards Ruthin, about 2 miles from Llangollen. Most of the distance can be pleasantly traversed by following the towing path, a pretty tree-shaded walk, along the Canal, as far as the Slate Wharf, or by going to the Wharf by boat. There then remains a walk of less than half a mile.

The Abbey was founded in 1199 by Madoc-ap-Gryffydd-Maelor, Lord of Bromfield and Yale, for Cistercian monks. It shared the general fate of monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII. The ruin consists of a nave with aisles, choir, and two transepts, each of which had an aisle and two chapels. The west end has a central doorway with deeply recessed mouldings and dog-tooth ornaments. Above is a lofty three-light window; and, in the upper portion of the gable, is a wheel

window, with eight trifoliated compartments. The choir is lighted by three lofty lancet windows and two smaller ones.

By following the high-road for another quarter of a mile, there may be seen, in a field on the right, **Eliseg's Pillar**, one of the most remarkable memorial stones extant.

It was erected in memory of Eliseg, a Lord of Powis, who is said to have fought in the battle of Bangor Iscoed, in the year 603. It was originally 12 feet high, but during the troublous days of the first half of the seventeenth century, when feeling ran high against Papists as well as against the King, the memorial was thrown down by Protestant zealots and partly destroyed. The remains, about 8 feet high, stand on a tumulus, which was opened some years ago and disclosed a number of bones between large flat stones. The pillar had an inscription, now partly defaced, of which the following is a translation :—

“Concen, the son of Cateli ; Cateli, the son of Brochmael ; Brochmael, the son of Eliseg ; Eliseg, the son of Cnoillaim ; Concen, therefore, the great-grandson of Eliseg, erected this stone to the memory of his great-grandfather, Eliseg.”

From the presence of the pillar or cross, the spot became known as Pant-y-Groes, or the Glen of the Cross, whence the name of the Abbey.

TO LLANTYSILIO CHURCH.

Two miles to the north-west. The church can easily be reached by following the Canal to its commencement at the **Horseshoe Falls**, by which the Dee feeds the canal, a little above the Chain Bridge ; close by is Berwyn station, which is situated in one of the most beautiful parts of the Valley. The bridge, by the way, no longer answers to its name, but in its original form it embodied the idea perfected in the construction of the Menai Bridge.

Llantysilio Church stands on a very picturesque site, and is surrounded by a grove of old yew-trees, and a few wych-elms. The building is not architecturally of interest, but portions of the interior were brought from Valle Crucis Abbey. The east window is a memorial of Miss Andrews, one of two ladies who purchased Plas Newydd in order to repeat the experiment of the original “Ladies of Llangollen.” There are also memorials of *Robert and Mrs. Browning* and of *Sir Theodore and Lady Martin* (Helen Faucit), who lived at Bryntysilio, almost overlooking the church.

In the neighbourhood is **Llantysilio Hall**, the finest residence in the district.

TO BARBER'S HILL.

Barber's Hill, properly Moel-y-Geraint (the Hill of the Kindred), owes its popular name to a baseless tradition that it was the scene of the execution of a barber for the murder of his wife. It is 1,068 feet high, and commands a most beautiful view of the Vale of Llangollen. The prospect includes the **Llangollen Viaduct**, 5 miles from the town. This remarkable structure is 148 feet high, and each of its nineteen arches has a span of 60 feet. The summit of Barber's Hill, marked by a small cairn, can be reached by way of Hall Street and Willow Street in from 20 minutes to half an hour, but access to the highest point may be barred, the right of way having been disputed. The visitor will be amply repaid by descending on the opposite side, and extending the ramble to Berwyn station, 2 miles from Llangollen.

TO CHIRK CASTLE.

The Castle can be reached from Llangollen by various ways, of which the principal are—

1. By rail to Chirk Station, 10 miles, thence by road, 1½ miles.
2. By the London and Holyhead road through Chirk, 8½ miles, or turn to the right for the park a little short of the bridge over the railway. Distance by this route 6½ miles. Char-à-banc return fare, 1s. 6d.
3. By canal-boat to Chirk, 8 miles.

Chirk Castle, owned by Mr. Middleton but held on a long lease by Lord Howard de Walden, is not open to the public. A road through the extensive park, however, passes near the mansion. The Castle is supposed to have been built in 1013, and was an extremely strong fortification. The front is about 250 feet in length, and two persons can walk abreast along the battlements. The place was considerably battered by the cannon of Cromwell. The magnificent gateway in front leads through a massive tower into a quadrangle, 160 feet by 100 feet, around which are the family or "state" apartments. A curiosity in the collection of pictures is a piece by a foreign artist who, mistaking his direction to paint a flock of sheep in connection with the waterfall at Pistyll Rhaiadr, introduced a fleet of ships riding on a sea created by his brush in the midst of dry land.

TO THE VALE OF CEIRIOG.

The **Vale of Ceiriog**, running westward from Chirk for some 15 miles, is one of the most lovely in Wales. Many persons

consider it even prettier than the Vale of Llangollen. It is traversed by the **Glyn Valley Tramway**, which, starting from Chirk, near the Great Western Railway station, extends for a distance of nearly 9 miles, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles of which are used for passenger traffic. On a fine summer day no excursion can be more enjoyable than a trip to Glyn in one of the open coaches which run on all passenger trams, and thence northward over the hills to Llangollen, which is only 3 miles distant.

The village of **Glyn** is pleasantly situated, and has comfortable hotel accommodation. The village **Institute and Library**, opened in 1911, is a national memorial of *John Ceiriog Hughes*, the greatest lyric poet of Wales, and of two other noted Welsh literary men, *Cynddelw* and *Huw Morus*.

John Hughes was born in 1832 in the vale which gave him his bardic name of Ceiriog. When quite young he went to work on a farm. After following various occupations he became a station master under the Cambrian Railways Company, and finally manager of the railway leading to the Van Mines. He died at Caersws in 1887. Fame came to him through his love poem, *Myfanwy*, at the National Eisteddfod at Llangollen in 1858. He has been aptly termed the "Robert Burns of Wales," for he was a poet of nature and of the every-day life and homely ways of the Welsh.

Glyn is a capital centre for pedestrians, as delightful rambles can be had in all directions. The *Ceiriog* is a favourite stream for anglers (parts are free). The Glyn Valley Hotel at **Glyn Ceiriog**, the western terminus of the railway, issues tickets for several miles of the river.

TO GARTH.

Rail to Trevor, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, thence walk to **Garth** and Llangollen over the mountains. From the ridge there is a delightful view of the Cheshire Plain towards the east and of the Vale of Llangollen westward.

TO THE EGLWYSEG ROCKS.

The **Eglwyseg Rocks** are enormous limestone cliffs running east and west and forming the northern side of the Vale of Llangollen. The nearest point is 1 mile north-west of the town. A lane leading to the foot of the rocks is entered by crossing the Canal bridge and turning to the right. By turning to the right at the rocks, there will be found a zigzag road to the summit, upon which one may roam at will. The general height is from 1,400 to 1,500 feet, but the loftiest point has an elevation of 1,648 feet. Trevor Station lies to the right; the World's End, to the left.

TO THE WORLD'S END.

The **World's End** is a picturesque recess, 5 miles north-west of Llangollen, formed by the meeting of the heights of Craigy-forwyn and Craig yr Adar. To approach it, cross the Canal bridge and turn to the left. The route lies along the base of the Eglwyseg Rocks, past the Eglwyseg Mission Church, through the farmyard of *Plas Eglwyseg* and thence by *Plas Uchaf*, or Eglwyseg Manor House, an Elizabethan mansion 2 miles beyond the farm, and a short distance from the termination of the valley.

TO RUABON.

Ruabon, a junction on the Great Western Railway, is 6 miles from Llangollen. In the neighbourhood are coal mines and brickworks. The Church contains interesting monuments and a faded fresco of the fourteenth century.

Adjoining Ruabon on the south is **Wynnstay** (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Ruabon station), the seat of Sir H. Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., in a beautiful park, 12 miles in circumference. The house is not shown, but admission to the **Park** can usually be obtained on application at the lodge, close to Ruabon. About a mile farther along the road is a public way through the park.

On entering at the lodge, the visitor finds himself in a lovely avenue. This should not be followed; but he should at once pass through a gate, on the right of the lodge, into the **Bath Grounds**. Go to the left along the upper path. At the end of about five minutes, turn to the right to the Bath. From the Bath proceed in a south-westerly direction and slightly changing the course to the left reach the **Column**, an obelisk 101 feet high, surmounted by a bronze urn. It was erected to the memory of one of the baronets. An internal spiral staircase leads to the top, whence a very extensive view is gained. It includes almost the whole of the Vale of Llangollen. Close to the monument is a gate by which the Bath Grounds can be left, and then, in a few minutes, the **Mansion** comes in sight. It is a modern structure which has replaced the house destroyed by fire in 1858.

Then follow the drive southwards, and, having passed a lodge, take the first turn on the right, which leads past another lodge and to the public road through the park. Follow this westward, past a large stuccoed mansion on the left, and past a cottage. A few yards beyond the latter, follow a broad path through a field and into a wood to **Nant-**

y-Bella Tower, erected to the memory of officers who fell in Ireland in 1798. It takes its name from the site, "the Marten's Dingle," the most beautiful spot in the park. It is about a mile from the house.

To the right of a viaduct in the prospect from the dingle will be seen the **Waterloo Tower**. This can be reached by returning to the stuccoed mansion, going through a gate opposite, and following a path through a field and a wood to a drive leading to Waterloo Lodge. A short distance from the tower is Cefn station.

Excursion Facilities.

In normal times excursions are arranged to a large number of places, including some on the Cambrian Railways and certain of the resorts on the north coast of Wales. There are also cheap tickets for circular tours extending over three days, and tickets for combined rail and coach tours.

Char-à-banc drives at low fares are arranged by local job-masters. Trips by the Canal boats are made daily.

CORWEN.

Access.—By Great Western Railway, and by the L. & N.W. *via* Ruthin.

Distances. (By rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bala	12	Denbigh	19	Rhyl	30
Chester	33	Llangollen	16	Ruthin	12½
Dolgelley	30	London	194	St. Asaph	24½

(By road.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Bala (north road) .	12	Bettws-y-Coed . .	22	Pont-y-Glyn . . .	6
„ (south road) .	13	Llangollen	16	Ruthin	11½

Early Closing.—Wednesday.

Fishing.—There are many salmon pools in the district; and besides the Dee there are several other capital trout streams. Tickets for the day, week, month and season at moderate charges.

Golf.—9-hole course of the Corwen Club, 1s. 6d. day; 5s. week. Also, 18-hole links of the Cerrig-y-drudion Club, 2s. day; 5s. week; 10s. month; 20s. season. Road motor between Cerrig and Corwen station, twice daily each way; fare 1s. 4d. single.

Hotels and Tariffs.—See Introduction.

Places of Worship, with hours of English services on Sunday:—

Parish Church, 11.15.

Congregational, 11 and 6.

Welsh Wesleyan, Calvinistic Methodist, Independent and Baptist.

Reading-room and Public Library.—In the Square.

Corwen, an old-fashioned, grey-tinted market-town of Merionethshire, is pleasantly situated at the base of the Berwyn Mountains. The neighbourhood displays charming scenery, and the town is an excellent fishing centre.

The principal building is—

The Parish Church,

founded in the sixth century and dedicated to Mael and Sulien, two of the missionaries who accompanied St. Cadvan of Towyn from Brittany to Wales in the sixth century. The present structure has no architectural beauty, but contains objects of antiquarian interest.

According to a legend, attempts were made to erect the Church on a better site, but the work done during the day was demolished at night. At last the builders were supernaturally led to a spot where a large stone stood. There the church was completed, and the great stone was built into the porch, where it may be seen to this day. It is an immense block known by a Welsh name signifying "the pointed stone in the icy nook."

The old Norman font, with its cable pattern, dates from about 1100. On the north side of the chancel is the grave of a vicar who died in 1350.

On the exterior of the lintel of the priests' door is a rude cross. Local tradition calls it the mark of Glendower's dagger, and says that the indentation was made when the chieftain in a fit of rage hurled the dagger from the conical hill which stands behind the church and overlooks the town.

Near the south-west angle of the Church is the remnant of a Celtic cross. In the churchyard also are gravestones only a few inches above the ground and having semi-circular indentations as rests for the knees of those who came to pray over the dead. One stone bears the date 1771, another 1810.

Speaking of the religious customs of the Welsh, Thomas Pennant, the traveller and naturalist of the eighteenth century, says: "In some places it was customary for the friends of the dead to kneel and say the Lord's Prayer over the grave for several Sundays after the interment, and then to dress the graves with flowers."

Behind the Church is a row of six houses, called the **College**, tenanted by widows of clergymen. They were built in 1750 by William Eyton, of Warren Hall, Shropshire.

WALKS AND DRIVES FROM CORWEN.

Approached through the Coronation Arch, past the Welsh Congregational Chapel, is a conical hill known as **Pen-y-Pigin**, or Glendower's Seat. It is crowned by a cairn out of which rises a flagstaff. The summit affords a capital view of the

Vale of Edeyrnion, and the Clwydian hills. Under favourable conditions the prospect includes Snowdon. By looking along the Holyhead road it will be seen rising over hills to the left of a wood.

On the opposite side of the river, and a little to the east, is **Caer Drewyn**, 1 mile distant, a bare hill crowned with an excellent example of a British fort. The fortress is regarded by antiquaries as the most precious prehistoric monument in Wales. It is about half a mile in circumference, the wall is about four yards thick, and on its north-eastern boundary are the remains of circular apartments. The mountain is also celebrated in history as the camping ground of the great Welsh Prince, Owen Gwynedd, when he was heading a revolt in 1165 against the English King, Henry II, who encamped on the Berwyns, where his force was helpless. Owing to stormy weather it had to beat a hasty retreat.

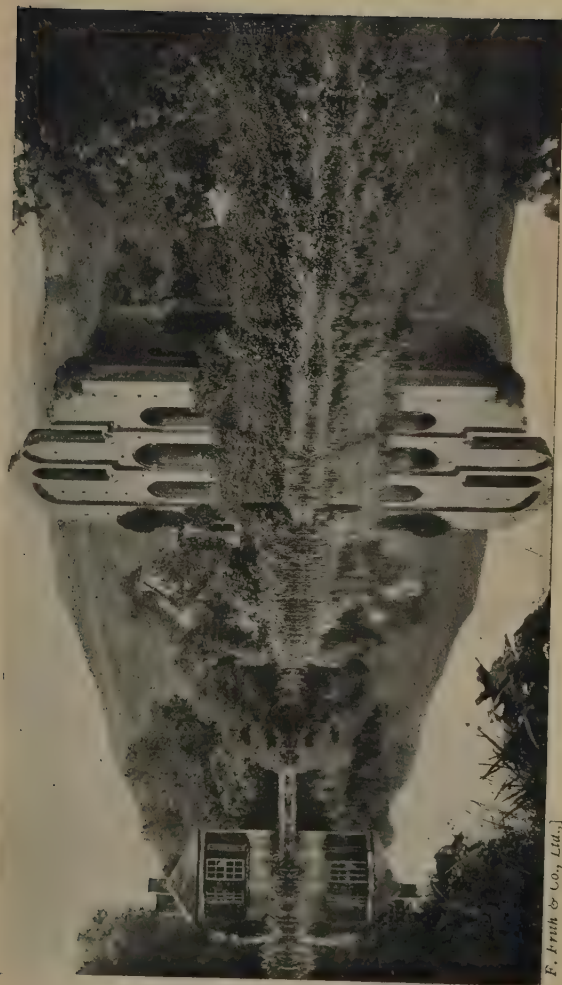
On the north side of the river also, and about as much to the west of Corwen as **Caer Drewyn** is to the east, is the stately mansion of **Rûg**, first a seat of the Salesburys—a family of great note in Welsh history—then of the Vaughans, and now of the Wynns.

Five miles to the north is the small village of **Derwen**, with a station on the line to Ruthin. Its church has the only rood loft in the Vale of Clwyd, and in the churchyard is the most perfect and elaborate Celtic cross in the neighbourhood.

Further north (a mile or so west of Egarth station) is **Efenechtyd Church**, remarkable for its font hewn out of a block of oak, and for a knocker on the door. The knocker is thought to have reference to the parable of the Ten Virgins, and to have belonged to a nunnery supposed to have been here.

The interesting town of **Ruthin** is described in the companion *Guide to the Northern Section of North Wales*

A walk or drive of about 6 miles, along the Bettws-y-Coed road, or a journey for that distance in one of the motor cars that ply between Corwen and Bettws-y-Coed, will enable the visitor to see the romantic **Pont-y-Glyn**. The *Geirw*, a tributary of the Alwen, here tumbles over a rocky slope, 200 feet deep, and rushes impetuously through a narrow glen thickly clothed with foliage. High above a branch road is carried across the ravine by a single arched bridge, of 50 feet span, to which the appropriate name of **Pont-y-Glyn** (" Bridge of the Glen ") is given. It is sometimes known as *Pont Glyn Diphwys*. The road to it from Corwen runs past **Rûg**.



[Kelgate.

VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY.

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F. Frith & Co., Ltd.,]

BALA LAKE AND LLAN-Y-CIL CHURCH.

[Reigate.

No visitor to this part of Wales should omit to travel from end to end along the high-road connecting Corwen, and Llangollen. It is better to take the walk to Llangollen than in the opposite direction, as then the best of the scenery comes last. The whole road is pretty, but in the Vale of Llangollen the scene is truly charming.

BALA.

Access.—By Great Western Railway.

Banks.—*London City & Midland and National Provincial.*

Distances. (By rail.)

	MILES.		MILES.		MILES.
Barmouth	27	Dolgelley	17½	Llangollen	22
Corwen	12	Festiniog	21½	Ruabon	28

Early Closing.—Thursday.

Fishing.—*See Appendix for Anglers.*

Golf.—A 9-hole course alongside the Dee. Green fees: day, 1s. 6d.; week, 5s.

Hotels and Tariffs.—*See Introduction.*

Places of Worship, with hours of English services:—

Christ Church—10.30.

Llan-y-cil—6.15.

English Presbyterian Church, High Street—10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Population.—(1911) 1,537.

Public Library and Reading Room.

Bala is pleasantly situated about a quarter of a mile from the lake of the same name. It is a small, regularly built market-town, consisting of a long principal street, crossed at right angles by a few others.

On leaving the station, which is close to the river *Tryweryn*, an important tributary of the Dee, we have the Calvinistic Methodist College away on the right, and by turning down the first street on the left on the way to the High Street, a small shrub-covered mound known as **Tomen-y-Bala**, said to be of Roman origin, and the site of Bala Castle, captured by Llewelyn-ab-Iowerth in 1202. Returning to the main thoroughfare we come to a fine bronze **Statue of Thomas E. Ellis**, born at Cynlas, a few miles distant, sometime M.P. for Merioneth, Junior Lord of the Treasury and Chief Liberal Whip. He died in 1899 and the statue was unveiled by Viscount Morley four years later. There is also a tablet memorial of Mr. Ellis in Cefnddwysarn Chapel, unveiled in 1910, Mr. Lloyd George being present at the ceremony.

Opposite the *White Lion Hotel* is a thoroughfare leading to Tegid Chapel, near which is a *Statue of the Rev. Thomas Charles* (1755–1814), one of the founders of the Bible Society.

Mr. Charles was originally a Church clergyman; but was led to throw in his lot with the Calvinistic Methodists. Grieved at the ignorance of the people, he established a system of circulating

schools, and prepared spelling and reading books and catechisms in the vernacular, for the use of teachers. Soon afterwards he originated the Sunday schools now so plentiful in the Principality. One day a little girl named Mary Jones walked from Llanfihangel to Bala, a distance of about 25 miles, over the mountains, to buy a Bible from Mr. Charles. His stock had run out, but moved by her distress he gave her one of his own Bibles. The incident moved Mr. Charles to undertake a journey to London to consult with friends as to the practicability of forming a society to print Welsh Bibles on the plan of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, which had printed 2,000 copies, but the edition was exhausted, and was not to be re-issued. The journey resulted in the formation of the great British and Foreign Bible Society.

A *Statue of Dr. Lewis Edwards*, for many years Principal of Bala College, stands in front of the College.

Continuing along the main thoroughfare, we reach—

Bala Lake,

the largest natural sheet of water in Wales. It is the private property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. The lake is about 4 miles in length and two-thirds of a mile wide, and its area is 1,084 acres. In some places near the shore it is very shallow; in others it suddenly becomes very deep. Its greatest depth is about fifty yards. The water lies in a beautiful valley bounded by the peaks of the Berwyns and the Arans. The surface is often ruffled and during the prevalence of a south-west wind the lake looks like an angry sea. The best view is obtained from the Mallwyd road, which runs along the eastern side. The lake abounds with trout, pike, perch, eels, etc., and is one of the two places in Great Britain in which is found the gwyniad, an Alpine fish, so called on account of the extremely white colour of its scales. Trout of from 3 to 5 pounds are taken, and pike up to 24 pounds. On the lake are boats for hire.

There is a road on each side of the lake. At the southern end the highway passes through **Llanuwchllyn**, 5 miles from Bala by the north-western shore, and 6 by the south-eastern. The view here is beautiful and the village is the site of a very ancient church, containing the figure of a knight in armour. Close to the village is a railway station.

On the north-western shore, a mile from the High Street, is **Llan-y-Cil**, the Parish Church of Bala. Its burial-ground contains some fine yew-trees and the graves of Thomas Charles, Dr. Lewis Edwards, Dr. Parry, Prof. Peter, F.G.S. (Ioan Pedr), and others, while in the church was buried the Rev. Evan Lloyd, a once popular poet and a friend of

John Wilkes. The latter made his acquaintance in the King's Bench prison and wrote his epitaph. /

Other lakes in the neighbourhood of Bala are:—

Llyn Arenig, 6 miles distant (2 to 3 miles from Arenig station), in the Arenig Mountains. It is well stocked with perch and trout, and supplies the town with water.

Llyn Mynyllod, on the hill between Llandrillo and Bethel, about 6 miles from Bala. It has a floating island.

Llyn Tryweryn, between the Arenig and Arenig Bach Mountains, not far from the Bala and Festiniog road. From it the river Tryweryn takes its rise. The railway to Festiniog passes the lake westward of Arenig station, at the highest point of the line, 1,278 feet.

EXCURSIONS FROM BALA.

TO LLANFOR.

Llanfor is a small village about a mile from Bala, on the Corwen road. The Church is ancient and has been the burial-place of the Price family of Rhiwlas for many generations. Over the entrance to their modern mausoleum are the extraordinary lines:—

“As to my latter end I go
To win my Jubilee,
I bless the good horse, Bendiço,
Who built this tomb for me.”

THE ASCENT OF ARENIG.

Arenig station is at the foot of **Arenig**, which has a height of 2,800 feet. As the station is at an elevation of 1,000 feet those who make it their starting-point have not much climbing to do. The ascent begins by a rough road on the right, a short distance from the station.

TO LAKE VYRNWY.

Lake Vyrnwy, the principal reservoir of the Liverpool water supply, is 10 miles from Bala at its nearest point; 15 to the Vyrnwy Hotel at its foot. The route is along a rough mountainous road through a pretty but solitary district.

Crossing the bridge at the foot of Bala Lake, the road turns to the left and rises steeply uphill to the hamlet of **Rhos-y-Gwaliau**, near which is an old manor-house, *Rhiwaedog*, noted for its connection with Llywarch Hen, a Welsh prince. The road traverses a well-wooded valley, along the side of which a small stream tumbles; and after crossing the stream we follow another valley known as the **Horseshoe**. An uninteresting valley succeeds; and, still rising, we cross the pass. Next we drop steeply down to the headwater of the

Vyrnwy, and get on the road which runs round the Reservoir. This road is $11\frac{1}{4}$ miles long. At its lower end it passes over the dam on 33 arches. Through the central arches the overflow pours in a cascade nearly 600 feet broad and more than 80 feet in height.

The lake lies in a deep valley amid some of the most impressive scenery in Wales, but its principal attraction consists of its fish. "It contains millions of native trout and a large number of rainbow trout, and its waters are being constantly replenished from a hatchery and stock ponds." The fishing rights on the lake and on the streams of an extensive tract are held by the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel.

Most visitors reach the lake from Llanfyllin station, 10 miles distant, the terminus of a branch line from Oswestry.

TO PISTYLL RHAIADR.

Pistyll Rhaiadr ("the Spout of the Waterfall River") is one of the best waterfalls in Wales. The total length of the fall is about 300 feet. Take train to Llandrillo, 7 miles. From the station go on to the village, half a mile, and there find a native who will act as guide, for the fall is still 7 miles distant and the route is intricate. Owing to the impossibility of travelling quickly across the heather few visitors will reach the goal in 3 hours.

FOR ANGLERS.

North Wales, especially that portion of it described in the foregoing pages, is very attractive to anglers. Many of the waters that can be fished have already been indicated, but for the convenience of those most interested they are enumerated here, together with many other lakes and streams.

The rivers that flow into the sea between Criccieth Castle and a point 3 miles north of Aberystwyth, together with their tributaries and lakes, are under the Board of Conservators for the Dovey, Mawddach and Glaslyn Fishery District. One of the requirements of the Board is that every angler shall hold a licence, whether fishing in free or preserved water.

For trout and char the licence costs 1s. for the season. For salmon (including trout and char) the charges are: for the season, 20s.; for a month, 10s.; a week, 5s.; a day, 1s. The licences may be obtained at the sub post-offices, hotels and various shops in the district.

Aberdovey. Good bass fishing. A large crimson and white fly should be used.

Abergynolwyn. Free trout fishing in the Dysynni.

Arthog. Trout, sewin, salmon and red-fin in the rivers Mawddach and Wnion. Tickets at hotel.

Aberystwyth. Free fishing in the lakes which supply the town with water. Mackerel, gurnet and a few bass between the mouth of the Rheidol and Borth. Excellent sea-fishing all the year round. The sport is fostered by the Freshwater and Sea-Angling Association.

Bala. Trout, salmon, grayling in the Dee, at 2s. 6d. a day, 5s. a week, 42s. season. Tickets at the hotels. On the Tryweryn, 1s. 6d. a day, 10s. a month, 21s. the season. Bala Lake contains pike, perch, roach and trout. Fishing from a boat, 1s. a day. A small portion of the upper part of the Lake is reserved.

Barmouth. Salmon and trout in the Mawddach. Good sea-fishing.

Beddgelert, for the Colwyn and Glaslyn rivers, and Lakes Ddinas, Gwynant and Gader. Glaslyn Angling Association tickets: Trout, 1s. a day, 3s. 6d. a week, 10s. for the season. In addition, Conservators' licence, trout, season, 1s.; salmon and sewin, 1s. a day, 5s. a week, 10s. a month, 20s. for the season. There are boats on Lakes Ddinas, Gwynant and Gader. Visitors at the Royal Goat Hotel can have free fishing. April and May, best months for trout; June and July, for sewin; August and September, for salmon.

- Carnarvon and Llanberis**, for the Seiont river, Llyn Padarn and Llyn Peris, and numerous small lakes. The fishing on Llyn Peris (trout and char) is free to visitors at the Royal Victoria and Padarn Villa Hotels, Llanberis. For other waters an Anglers' Association ticket must be obtained, also a licence; for trout, 5s. a year; trout and salmon, 15s. At Carnarvon is fair sea-fishing.
- Carrog**. Trout, grayling, salmon, chub and pike in the Dee, preserved for 12 miles above by the River Dee Fishery and below by the Glyndwr Society. Tickets for the former at the hotel: day, 2s.; week, 6s.; season, 30s. Glyndwr Society tickets at the station. Trout, day, 2s. 6d.; week, 10s.; month, 21s.; season, 42s. Salmon and trout, day, 5s. 6d.; month, 42s.; season, 84s.
- Cefn**. For fishing in the Dee between Newbridge and Llangollen in the water of the Llangollen Trout and Grayling Preserve. For terms, *see* Llangollen.
- Cemmaes**. Trout, sewin and salmon in the Dovey. *See* Machynlleth.
- Chirk**. The Glyn Valley Hotel has 4 miles of fishing in the Ceiriog, a tributary of the Dee.
- Corris**, for Tal-y-Llyn Lake, which is well stocked with sewin, trout, and eels. "Trout are most numerous at the lower end, but the best fish are caught at the top of the lake." Boat, 2s. 6d. a day. Llyn-y-Cau, under the cliffs of Cader, "contains a vast number of small trout—a delicious fish."
- Corwen**. Many good streams and pools besides the Dee and Alwen, the waters of which are preserved by the River Dee Fishery. Tickets (at the Owen Glyndwr Hotel): 2s. a day, 6s. a week, 30s. the season (Feb. 14 to Sept. 14). Tickets for grayling from Oct. 14 to Feb. 1, 5s.
- Criccieth**. Trout, sewin, salmon. Dwyfawr and Dwyfach rivers and Cwmystadrlllyn Lake.
- Dinas Mawddwy**. Visitors at the Peniarth Arms have free fishing over 8 miles of the Dovey and the Cliefion for salmon, sewin and trout. Trout licence, 1s. the season; salmon licence, 1s. a day, 5s. a week, 10s. a month, 20s. the season.
- Dolgelley**. For the Mawddach and the Wnion, 1½ miles of Wnion preserved by local association. For all kinds of fish, 1s. 6d. a week; 2s. 6d. month; 5s. season. Licences, trout and char, 1s. the season; salmon, day, 1s.; week, 5s.; month, 10s.; season, 20s.
- Duffws**. Large shy trout in Lake Dubach.
- Dyffryn**. (Between Barmouth and Harlech.) Free fishing for trout in the Ysgethin and for trout and char in Llyn Bodlyn.
- Fairbourne**. Tickets, 1s. a day, at the Ynysfaig Hall Hotel for fishing in Llyn Cyri.
- Festiniog**. Trout in the Rhaladr, day, 2s. 6d.; season, 20s. Trout and sewin free in the Dwyrdd. Several other streams and lakes in the neighbourhood.
- Glyndyfrdwy**. Fishing in 12 miles of the Dee preserved by the Glyndwr Society. Tickets at the hotel or of the station-master. For terms, *see* Carrog.
- Harlech**. The Eiddew stream, 8 miles north-east, and Lakes Hafody-Llyn, 2 miles, Eiddew-fach, 8 miles north-east, and Eiddew-mawr, 8 miles north-east, all connected with the Artro, for

which see Llanbedr. Lakes Graigddrwy, 5 miles, Dywarehen 8 miles, and Du, 8 miles.

Llanbedr. Trout, sewin and salmon in the Artro preserved by a club which issues tickets. Connected with the Artro and within a mile of one another are Llyn Eiddew-fach, Llyn Fedw and Llyn Eiddew-mawr, all containing trout. Also connected with the Artro are the Bychan, on which is Llyn Cwm-bychan, containing trout, sewin and salmon; Llyn Gloyllyn (trout), the Nantcol (trout) rising in Llyn Howel (trout) and draining Llyn-y-ferfeddew (trout). All these lakes are close together, about six miles east of Llanbedr. Below Llanbedr the Artro receives a stream draining Hafod-y-Llyn, between Llanbedr and Harlech. In the tidal waters there is good bass fishing.

Llanberis. Trout, salmon, sewin in the Seiont preserved by the Carmarthenshire Fishing Association. The Llanberis lakes contain salmon, trout and char. The upper lake is reserved for visitors at the Victoria and Padarn Villa Hotels. The lower lake is free.

Llanymynech. The Llanymynech Vyrnwy Angling Committee have 4 miles of excellent water for trout and grayling, *is.* for the season.

Llangollen. The Dee is free from Llangollen Bridge to Chain Bridge, near Berwyn Station, a distance of nearly 2 miles. Above Chain Bridge is the Glyndwr Preserve, for which tickets can be obtained at the Royal Hotel, Llangollen. The charges are given in connection with Carrog. From Llangollen to Newbridge the Dee is preserved by the Llangollen Trout and Grayling Society. Deep wading necessary. Day, *1s.*; season, *20s.*

Llanuwchllyn. Trout fishing in the Twrch, Dee, Lliw, and Llafar and in Aran Lake. All preserved by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., from whom permission must be obtained.

Machynlleth. The waters of the River Dovey Angling Club, limited to 60 members. Non-resident members, £20 per annum and £5 entrance fee. Resident members, £7 per annum and £2 *10s.* entrance fee. A member can get a ticket once a year for a week's fishing for a friend for £2 *10s.*, plus *5s.* for a licence; for a day, *10s.*, and *1s.* for a licence. No other tickets issued.

Maentwrog. Trout, sewin and salmon fishing in the Dwyryd free above to hotel guests, below the charges are *2s. 6d.* a week, *5s.* a month, *10s.* the season. Lakes Llenyrch, 2 miles south, and Hafod-y-Llyn, 1 mile north-west, are free. Lakes Garneidd, 1 mile north, and Tecwyn-uchaf, 2 miles south-west, are free to hotel guests.

Penmaenpool. Trout, sewin and salmon in the Mawddach. Day, *2s. 6d.*, month, *10s. 6d.*

Penrhyndendiraeth. Trout, sewin and salmon in the Dwyryd.

Portmadoc. Trout can be taken from the Traeth, and Portmadoc is a centre for the Glaslyn river, which contains trout, sewin and salmon.

Pwllheli. Fishing within five minutes of the town, at nominal charge. Excellent sea-fishing.

Tal-y-Llyn. See under Corris.

Towyn. The Dysynni flows from Tal-y-Llyn lake to the sea near Towyn. Tickets for trout and salmon fishing by rod above Glandovey Bridge obtainable at the Medical Hall. Cod-fish are taken by line from boats in that part of the river known as

the train, from March to October. Pollack and bass are caught off the pier from April to September. Bass are also fished from a boat anchored in the river. Mullet, plaice, sole, turbot, bass, brill and other fish are caught in draught nets from May to November. Mackerel and gurnard provide good sport in the bay from July to September. Shrimps and prawns are abundant and can be caught in small hand nets. For the lowest part the charges are 1s. a day, 4s. a week, 7s. a month, 20s. the season. For the next section (through the Peniarth estate) the charges are about double those just given. Free fishing "in the stream flowing through Llanfihangel, also in the Dolgoch, and the Rhydyronen brooks, and the Gwernot River at Abergynolwyn, reached from stations on the narrow-gauge-line."

Tyn-y-Groes. Salmon, trout, sewin in the Mawddach free to visitors at the hotel. Others can obtain tickets at the hotel. Week, 15s.; month, 30s.; season, 63s. Also good trouting in various lakes.

Lake Vyrnwy. "The Loch Leven of Wales." Excellent trout fishing. Particulars at the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel, *Via* Oswestry.

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